

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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THE QUADRIGA FOR CONSTITUTION HILL.

G.P.O.

CONTENTS.

PAGE	PAGE
Our Cartoon	333
The Outlook	333
The Great Protest	335
Letters from Volunteers	335
Treasurer's Note	335
Contributions to the £250,000 Fund	335
Mr. Lloyd George at the Albert Hall	336
Political Prisoners	337
Benignities: Women Honoured	337
How the Reform Bill is Progressing	337
Woman's Arise! By Kathleen	337
Opinions of the Press	337
Cabinet Ministers Interviewed	338
Announcements	338
Mr. Ure at Andover	338
Glasgow By-Election	338
The Protest of a Hornsey Teacher	339
Reviews	339
The Need for Action. By Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.	340
To Parliament Square	341
Commons' Debate on the Case of Mr. Ball	342
At the London Pavilion	343
At Oulton Hall	343
Miss Gawthorpe's Protest	343
Mrs. Acland's Views	343
Miss Pankhurst's Reply	343
Mrs. Grieg's Protest	343
Miss Annie Kenney and the I.L.P.	343
Campaign throughout the Country	344
An Arab Joan of Arc	344
Mr. Lloyd George's "If's" and "But's"	344

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

"Deeds, not words," is the motto of the Women's Social and Political Union; and on Monday next it will once more be exemplified. By deeds and not by words did men win their freedom; and by deeds and

not by words can the opposition of enemies and false friends in the Cabinet alone be broken down.

Four Parties in the Cabinet.

If there are any women left who still think this course unwise we ask them to ponder upon the attitude of the four leading Ministers who only during the past week have been approached on this question. The Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Birrell and Mr. Winston Churchill have each a different point of view. The Prime Minister is against any and every form of Woman Suffrage, Mr. Lloyd George is for one particular solution, Mr. Birrell is for a totally different solution, Mr. Winston Churchill disagrees with them all. How will words suffice to evoke order out of this chaos? Deeds and deeds alone can do it, by creating a situation which must receive attention.

Mr. Lloyd George at the Albert Hall.

Mr. Lloyd George spoke on Friday last at the Albert Hall. His speech was simply a hash up of what has been said before over and over again. Not a single new light did he shed on the "great opportunity" provided by the Reform Bill; not a single new fact did he adduce to show how his amendment would be carried. And, worst of all, he brought no pledge from the Government that the Referendum trick—that costly method of denying justice—would not be used even at the eleventh hour against women, if by any possibility any proposals for their enfranchisement be carried through the House of Commons.

When will the Reform Bill be Introduced?

He commenced by saying that if women were to vote at the next General Election it was of supreme importance that Woman Suffrage should be carried in the present Session in order that it might secure the

benefit of the Parliament Act. For this purpose the Reform Bill would provide a great opportunity. In answer to an interjected question as to when the Reform Bill would be carried, Mr. Lloyd George replied, "From the Suffrage point of view it is immaterial, so long as it is carried this Session." This statement is directly contrary to fact, for by the terms of the Parliament Act *unless the Bill be carried a full month before the close of the Session it does not secure the benefit of the Act.*

Why not a Government Measure?

Mr. Lloyd George was then challenged as to why the question of Woman Suffrage was not to be dealt with by a Government measure. His reply was that one-third of the Cabinet and one-quarter of the Liberal Party were opposed to it. We venture to say that this is equally true of almost every other question which comes before the House of Commons. Will Mr. Lloyd George deny that at least one-third of the Cabinet and one-quarter of the Liberal Party were opposed to the Budget of 1909, or that the same proportion are opposed to Irish Home Rule, or that a far larger proportion disapproved of the Insurance Bill? Nevertheless, these measures, desired only by a minority of members, are carried through the House by Party pressure. Woman Suffrage, on the other hand, desired by a great majority of the House, is side-tracked.

Letting the Tories In.

Mr. Lloyd George then declared that to insist upon a Government Bill would be to split the Cabinet and to let the Tories in, and that state of affairs would be worse for the prospect of Woman Suffrage than the present. We fail to see why determined action on the part of the suffragist majority should split the Cabinet

any more on this question than on others; but if it be true, then that is a question for the recalcitrant minority to consider, and not for the majority. And suppose a few reactionaries have to be cast out, is that not better than allowing the whole Cabinet and the whole Party to be reactionary? What is to be the future of Liberalism if it is not liberal? Woman suffragists have no desire to shatter the Liberal Party, but if that is the only way they will not hesitate to take it. They know quite well that it would not be long before the succeeding Conservative Government would in its turn split on the rock of Woman Suffrage unless the wiser course of giving women the vote were adopted.

The Referendum.

After detailing the pledges made by the Prime Minister in November last, Mr. Lloyd George repeated his own objections to the use of the Referendum; but, when pressed later for an explicit statement as to the policy of the Government, he said that only the Prime Minister could answer that question. This reply was the more disappointing because Mr. George had declared at the beginning of his speech that he had come not to tell the audience his personal position, but his view of the position of the Government. Now if the Referendum is to hang like the Sword of Damocles over the head of the suffragists, of what use is any proposition which Mr. Lloyd George can make? Even if his scheme was far more seductive than it is at present we should reject it with scorn, because it could always be defeated in the end by the Referendum.

The Man Who Sowed Discord.

Mr. Lloyd George went on to say, however, that what he feared most was not the Referendum, but the possibility of disunion in the suffrage ranks. What sublime effrontery from the man who found the suffrage ranks united, and deliberately sowed discord! Had it not been for Mr. Lloyd George the Conciliation Bill would now be law. Had it not been for him there would have been no Manhood Suffrage Bill; but if and when a Government introduced a Reform Bill it would have applied to men and women alike. And yet this man says he is afraid of disunion!

The Conciliation Bill.

Mr. Lloyd George had given an undertaking that for twenty minutes he would consent to answer questions. As usual this promise was broken, the excuse given on this occasion being that his speech had been punctuated by interjections. Instead of twenty minutes he devoted about three or four minutes to perfunctory and evasive answers. His reply on the question of the Referendum we have already dealt with. As to the Conciliation Bill, he reiterated his opposition, but added the remark that if he became convinced no wider franchise were possible his attitude would be different. This promise, such as it is, was not (as the chairman subsequently said) new, for a similar promise was made as long ago as Oct. 14, 1911, to a deputation from the Men's Political Union. But it is not of the slightest value, for it is always open to Mr. Lloyd George to go on saying to the end of the chapter that he is not yet convinced.

How Can the Lloyd-George Amendment be Carried?

Apart from the Referendum the most important question addressed to Mr. Lloyd George related to the chances of success of his Amendment. The W.S.P.U. have quite openly stated their grounds for disbelieving that any such amendment as he proposes can be carried. These are, firstly, that he will not get Unionist support, secondly, that he will not get Liberal anti-suffragist or Irish anti-suffragist support, thirdly, that he will not get support from the followers of Mr. Birrell or Mr. Churchill, and, fourthly, that owing to lack of Government pressure, there will be no compulsion even for pro-suffragists to attend and vote. The W.S.P.U. have given figures to show that as a result Mr. George's Amendment will be lost. Now if Mr. George were sincere, he would have taken the opportunity provided by the occasion of Friday last to refute the case as stated by the W.S.P.U. But instead of doing so he evaded it entirely, saying, instead, that he thought his Amendment could be carried because there was a majority of suffragists in the House and he hoped for unity. That will not do! There was a majority—a vast majority—in the House united on a definite scheme of enfranchisement—the Conciliation Bill. That proposal Mr. George deliberately "torpedoed" substituting his own scheme in its place. We want something more than pious sentiments about unity from the man who gave us that stab in the back before we shall believe his proposal has any real chance of success.

Interrupting Mr. Lloyd George.

Mr. Lloyd George suffered during his speech from numerous interjections made from different parts of the hall. Many of these interruptions were directed to weak points in his arguments and served to show why women distrust the offer which he is making; others were frankly expressions of disapproval. Such comments are part and parcel of the normal political warfare of this country. Public speakers of all parties are accustomed to them from men, and woman suffrage speakers in the early days had their full share. When a man is trying to palm off false coin for sterling metal he cannot expect to escape such criticism, and if it were not made this very fact would be cited to prove the enthusiastic acceptance of his offer. Politicians are not divinities whom it is

blasphemy to interrupt, and who can be propitiated by flattery into giving what they would otherwise withhold. They are plain mortals very much susceptible to pressure, who despise those who bow down before them and who respect, even while they fight, those who stand up to them.

Mr. Asquith Refuses Information on the Referendum.

Having failed to get any satisfactory answer from Mr. Lloyd George with regard to the Referendum, and having been informed by him that the Prime Minister alone could expound the attitude of the Government on this question, the W.S.P.U. determined to apply to Mr. Asquith for information. Mrs. Pankhurst accordingly addressed a letter to him on Saturday last, in which she stated that she proposed to wait upon him, with her colleagues, on the following Monday (February 26) to solicit his views. To this letter she received the reply that Mr. Asquith had nothing to add to the answers which he had given to the deputation in November last. Mrs. Pankhurst accordingly wrote again, pointing out that the question of the Referendum had been mooted since that time, and that great anxiety was felt by Woman Suffragists owing to the unsatisfactory statement of Mr. Lloyd George as to the Cabinet's position on this subject. Mr. Asquith, however, repeated his refusal and Mrs. Pankhurst, in view of the forthcoming protest on Monday, March 4, decided to content herself for the present with obtaining assurances from private Members that the question would be pressed on the floor of the House without delay.

Mr. Birrell receives the Anti-Suffragists.

On Saturday last Mr. Birrell, in reply to a deputation of anti-suffragists, repeated his declaration in favour of votes for women, though he said he did not feel that the pressure of argument was so strong as it used to be in John Stuart Mill's time. Since then the Married Women's Property Acts had been carried as a result of the efforts of great lawyers, and not by breaking windows. However, he was still a Suffragist, and believed in the Conciliation Bill, but he did not want to see a wider measure of enfranchisement carried, and thought that if a wide amendment was brought forward, women stood the chance of losing all. To this we have two things to say, firstly, to note that the Married Women's Property Acts were drawn up by Dr. Pankhurst and pressed through by the ardent work of Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy and other suffragists, and that it is Dr. Pankhurst's wife and daughter and Mrs. Elmy who have come to the conclusion that constitutional methods are no longer of any avail. And secondly, to call attention to the fact, which Mr. Lloyd George invariably ignores, that there is a party in the Liberal ranks, led by Mr. Birrell, who, though suffragists and Liberals, are opposed to the amendment which he says he can carry through the House of Commons.

Mr. Winston Churchill—the "Promising" Politician.

Mr. Winston Churchill has written a letter to the Women's Freedom League, in which he declares his intention of voting against the second reading of the Conciliation Bill. He also states that he is against the passage of a Woman Suffrage amendment to enfranchise some eight millions of women, and he will vote for the third reading of the Manhood Suffrage Bill even if all amendments to include women are lost. This is the man who, when he needed the help of women at Manchester, declared that he was a friend to woman suffrage, and that if and when occasion offered he would support it in the Cabinet and elsewhere; and who, when he needed the help of women in Dundee, said that his friendship was not one of words, but of deeds. And yet there are women who ask us to trust in the promises of Cabinet Ministers!

The Case of William Ball.

The disgraceful story of the treatment of the case of Mr. William Ball is gradually coming out. All through the week Mr. McKenna has been called on to answer questions in the House of Commons on this subject, and on Monday and Tuesday nights the matter was raised and debated at length by Mr. Geo. Lansbury, Lord Hugh Cecil, and Mr. Lynch. Mr. McKenna, in his reply, appears to have abandoned the discreditable suggestion that Mr. Ball's mind was unbalanced before entering the prison, but still maintains that his condition had nothing to do with forcible feeding. He contends that Mr. Churchill's regulations do not cover cases where hard labour is imposed by the magistrate, and refuses to extend them in this sense, but admits he could have remitted hard labour in the case of Mr. Ball and so have made the rule applicable to him. He promises an independent medical enquiry into the treatment of Mr. Ball in prison. This enquiry will be of considerable advantage as throwing light on the facts of the treatment in prison, but Mr. McKenna must realise that our accusation against him and against the prison authorities extends to many other matters not included in it. In the first place Mr. Ball ought to have been treated as a political offender, secondly, he ought not to have been forcibly fed, thirdly, he ought to have been released when his mind showed signs of instability, fourthly, his friends should have been communicated with at once, and fifthly, he should not have been sent away as a pauper lunatic. A great meeting of protest is being held by the M.P.U. to-night (Friday) in the Queen's Hall and we recommend our readers to be present.

The New Constitutional Society.

A very striking article appeared in the "Woman's Platform" of the Standard on Tuesday last by Mrs. Cecil Chapman setting forth the policy of the New Constitutional

Society for Woman Suffrage. Mrs. Chapman discusses Mr. Lloyd George's speech at the Albert Hall showing that it failed to give any new reason for trusting his policy. She then picks out one by one the weak points in his scheme and shows that if he was really in earnest he would refuse to remain a member of a Cabinet which would not accept the enfranchisement of women. She concludes by stating that the Society profoundly distrusts a Government which leaves to a chapter of accidents a measure of such supreme and even vital importance, and that though non-militant the Society will lose no opportunity at by-elections and elsewhere of opposing this and every Government which withholds votes from women.

Australian Women Cable to Mr. Asquith.

Our readers will learn with pleasure that the Women's Political Association of Australia have sent the following cable to Mr. Asquith:—

"Australian Non-Party Women protest against Colonial Secretary taking part in Anti-Suffrage Demonstration. They regard it as an undeserved reflection on Women Voters. Courtesy demands neutrality."

We thank the Women's Political Association heartily for this message.

The Plural Voting Bill.

The Second Reading of the Plural Voting Bill will take place this afternoon (Friday), and the attitude of the Government towards it will be carefully noted in view of the rumour that the Government are more solicitous to pass this measure than their boasted Reform Bill. In a letter to the *Times* Lord Wolmer, after referring to Mr. Lloyd George's statement that the Reform Bill would be proceeded with, says:—

If this is so, we may ask why has a Liberal member at the instigation of the Government Whips brought in a Bill (for which he has secured first place in the ballot) to abolish plural voting? Would this be necessary if the Government were in earnest about their other suffrage proposals? Does it not mean that they intend to force this Plural Voting Bill through because they conceive that they can thereby gain some electoral advantage, whereas the larger measure, about which they are hopelessly divided, is not really intended to become law, but merely to delude and appease for the moment their gullible Women Suffrage supporters? If not, what is their reason for separating the two measures?

And the London Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* drops a hint to the same effect in that paper on Tuesday.

Mothers Not Parents.

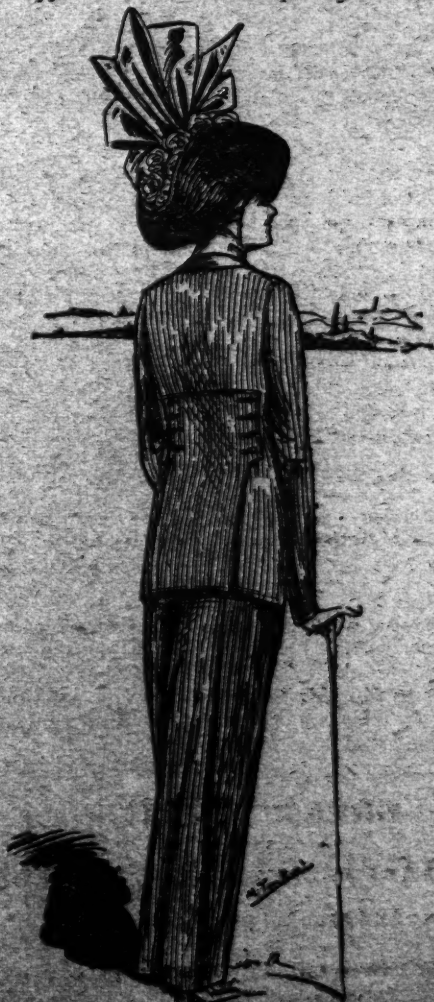
The Croydon Vaccination Officer has by a particularly mean trick brought home to mothers that they are not reckoned as parents under the law. Recently, in Croydon, several mothers have signed exemption forms in the presence of magistrates and solicitors without question. These have been forwarded to the vaccination officer, who has kept them till the statutory period for exemption has expired. He has now taken steps for compulsory vaccination on the ground that the exemptions were not in order, as the mother is not regarded as the legal parent of the child.

Debenham & Freebody.

WIGMORE ST. (Cavendish Sq.), LONDON, W.

NEW SPRING TAILOR SUITS.

Our Coats and Skirts have a character of their own. They are designed and made by skilled men tailors from fashionable materials, and are equal in appearance and style to the best type of Tailor Suits made specially to order.



Smart Street Suit (as above), beautifully tailored in new Spring Corduroy Tuxedo, perfect cut and finish. Coat lined with silk.

£4.

THE GREAT PROTEST.

Stirring Speech by Mrs. Pankhurst.

TAKE THE BIG VIEW!

Extracted from the Speech of Mrs. Pankhurst at the London Pavilion.

I have one word to say to the women who have not yet made up their minds to join our protest on March 4. What view do you take of Mr. Asquith's treatment of the question of the Referendum? Is not this latest insult enough to convince you that there is nothing left for women to do except to make, so far as women can, a political situation equivalent to that made by certain sections of men in the country who are determined to have justice?

Think of the question of the mining crisis to-day. Every newspaper in the country is saying that something must be done, and there are some newspapers going so far as to suggest that the money of the country—your money and mine—shall be used to subsidise the wages, in order that the men's grievances shall be settled and that public affairs shall not be disorganised any longer. Why? Because the miners have made a situation which has to be faced.

Are women so politically blind that they cannot see the seriousness of the women's position? Or is it that they are putting their domestic affairs before their public duty? When men mean political business their domestic duties recede far into the background. But women, by long training, have been taught to be ready to sacrifice everything for the welfare of those who are near and dear to them. We who are born in this country have the opportunity of making women take as big views of their public duty as men have ever done. It is by taking big views that the liberties of this country have been won, and I appeal to women to-day to come in such numbers that we are enough to settle the business. If we are numerous enough, if we are determined enough, we can make a situation that within twenty-four hours of our protest we shall have the Cabinet Ministers asking us to confer with them.

When you think of what we have to do, when you think of the position of women and children, when you think of the horrible wrongs inflicted upon the helpless members of our sex, is it not enough to compel us to make one great effort, and not forbear until we get this elementary question of citizenship settled. I call upon women to show that they have freedom in their souls, and that they resent such an insult to our womanhood as the Prime Minister has addressed to us this morning!

LETTERS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

I want to join in the protest on March 4. I am one of those lately released, and I am ready for anything.

Forgive me for not sending in my name to you at an earlier date, but as my mother is going too we were not sure whether I should be able to risk imprisonment as well. However in a crisis like the present, I feel that there should be no holding back from militant action, whatever the cost.

If I can, I want to join in the protest on the 4th. Since Mr. Ball's treatment, and no mention of Woman Suffrage in the King's Speech, my spirit is most militant, and though I have by no means recovered from my operation, a sequel to Black Friday, still I hope to add my unit to the 1,000 women.

I am a woman of sixty-five, but if my presence at the Protest on March 4 will be any help to the cause—as I understand numbers are necessary—will you please put my name down for it?

Yes, I go on the next protest; I simply can't keep away. Don't you think this great movement draws and compels one? Although I am quite out of touch with any one, yet I feel one in the spirit. . . . This prison idea has been simmering in my heart for some time, since one of my brothers said to me, "Ah, how your ardour would cool if you had a small taste of Holloway." Then it seemed to shoot through me like a lightning flash, "You must go." If my husband does not give me my rail fare, I shall borrow it. I am determined nothing shall stop me; if I walk the whole sixty miles I will be there. Of course I shall have leaving my darling little son. Ah, he is really such a sweet little soul.

A veteran writes:—I will join as far as my strength will go in the great militant protest on March 4. There is a responsive echo in all my being to your noble words.

I was not able to join the last protest, for reasons which I gave to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. The reasons still stand, but this time I feel they must give way, that if I did not join the protest I should be a traitor to our cause, so please put my name down for the 4th. I am old, and a coward, but I can at least be loyal.

GREAT MEETING IN THE LONDON OPERA HOUSE

On Thursday, March 7, at 8.15.

MR. PETHICK LAWRENCE AND MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST
ADMISSION FREE.

Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. and 1s.; also boxes, to be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Unless anything unforeseen occurs, I will follow you on March 4. Having suffered so terribly through the fire which we had in September, I hoped that there would have been sufficient volunteers without me, but after your appeal on Friday and your letter of Saturday, my mind is made up to risk all.

I am a widow with three boys, and only a servant to leave, but I am willing to join the Protest on the 4th. I have never felt I could go before, but Mrs. Pankhurst's appeal in this week's Votes compels me. Still I am very frightened at the prospect and a terrible coward at heart, but I will remember what others have done in the past, and try and do my part.

Will you please put my name down for the protest on March 4? Although I have been a member for three years, I have not before been able to take part in any militant work on account of home difficulties, but I feel the time has now come to put aside obstacles and help in the "strong, strong pull" which we hope will be the last one. I am not very strong, and am giving up part of a much needed holiday.

Will you please add my name to the deputation list for March 4? I find it impossible to stay away.

It is with pleasure I respond to your invitation to join you, if necessary, on March 4. I trust the women of Britain will come forward in large numbers and help to free themselves from the tyranny of the Government.

The impudent effrontery of Mr. Lloyd George's speech should bring us in many volunteers. What a contempt he has for our intelligence to think we could be deceived by such a scheme! I feel ashamed to think that so many women were deceived.

Please put my name down for March 4. Ethel Smyth is splendid. I must follow such a lead. I have five children, to whom I have always given personal care, but it is surely my duty to my daughters to help in their enfranchisement; and there seems no other effective way of helping.

Please add my name. I fail to see how any woman calling herself a Christian can fail to come forward after your so eloquent appeal to womanhood for the cause of humanity. It will be a great effort to me, but I should feel a coward did I not now come forward; for sympathy is quite useless—it is the great body of women which is needed. I have been able to draw many into the movement with interest, and they come regularly to the meetings on Mondays. But this, I realise, is not enough. Definite action is needed.

Certainly I am coming on March 4. I did not volunteer before, as I have not yet recovered from prison, but I have quite made up my mind now, that whatever work there will be to do on the 4th I shall be there to help to do it.

I can't get volunteers for the Deputation, but there is at any rate myself. I have two little children, one but two years old. But there is no doubt in my mind as to my duty for this Demonstration.

I am glad to say I was amongst those who had the pluck to stand up [at the Pavilion meeting] when called upon to do so. How I wish every woman there had done the same! I hope I shall be able to come and do my share in the next protest. I should be very pleased to sign a membership card if you think me worthy.

In these days of political strife, and unrest, and intrigues, shall not the women's cause rise triumphant over all? This is why, on March 4, I hope to be with the noble band (unworthy though I be) to throw my stone of protest, and I can only say, "May God be with us in our enterprise!"

Mrs. Roy Rothwell, who took part in the last deputation and who suffered two months' imprisonment as a consequence of her action, feels that she is unable to leave her very young children again so soon. She regrets very deeply that she will not be with her comrades on the coming deputation, and says that later in the year she will be able to make arrangements that will free her to join the battle, if it is not already won. She goes on to say:—"Meantime, I will gladly look after any children of any mother who is placed as I am, and shall be very glad if you will publicly make this offer. (Mrs. Roy Rothwell writes from St. Margaret's, Elie, Fife.) The conditions here are ideal for children, there is a large house and beautiful garden and shore, and I do the cooking myself. I could take three or four children, and I do not think anything short of this will appease me in the matter. Please do send them—if only the mothers will fight—for it is just the mothers and wives who know the necessity of this fight."

TREASURER'S NOTE.

Self-Denial Week.

After March 4 comes March 9. Both very significant dates for all the readers of this paper. On March 4, those who believe that resistance to organised wrong in high places is their paramount public duty, will hear a call to action, and will obey. On March 9, all those who, for various reasons, are either unable or unwilling to sacrifice their own liberty for the liberty of their sex, will be only too glad to take part in a great co-operative concentrated effort for the financial strengthening of our fighting organisation.

That is why we have set aside Saturday, March 9 to Saturday, March 16 as our special Week of Self-Denial. Many plans for this week are being formed at local centres all over the country. In some cases special sales of work or of home-made cakes, preserves and sweets are being arranged. In other cases all the local members are

drawing up a scheme for house-to-house canvassing for subscriptions. For everyone who sympathises in this great struggle for freedom there is the question to be answered, "What can I do?" Some women are selling their jewellery, some are denying themselves a specific pleasure or luxury, yes, and even necessity, so that they may have the means of giving of their substance in a measure worthy of those others who have given of their very life. Some are devoting several hours of every day to productive or remunerative labour, some are undertaking special service such as selling the paper in the streets, or canvassing for contributions from house to house, or open-air box-collecting. And not one who estimates approximately the value of what others have done to win freedom for her as a woman, but will desire to place some unique gift or sacrifice upon the altar of human liberty. The sum total realised by all this individual effort will be announced at the Albert Hall meeting on March 28.

Though Self-Denial Week begins nominally on March 8, and ends nominally on March 16, the majority of the members of this Union will feel that it really begins on the first day that sees the imprisonment of our colleagues, and lasts until the prison gates open, and they come back to take again their "place in the sun."

E. Pethick Lawrence.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £250,000 FUND.

February 19 to February 24.

Already acknowledged			
ledged.....	£115,345 3 8	Miss F. M. Dandy.....	0 5 0
Miss Benett.....	10 0 0	Miss Hagolin Hawels ..	1 0 0
Mr. and Mrs. Darley.....	0 10 0	Miss Winifred Holiday.....	0 10 0
Australian Gentleman		Miss Gwyneth Keys.....	0 2 8
(per Miss Miriam Levy)	0 2 8	Mrs. Aileen Graham.....	0 2 8
Mrs. Katherine Kent ..	3 0 0	Miss Katherine Balfour ..	10 0 0
Miss M. Bennett-Taylor ..	0 1 0	Mrs. E. G. Burchell.....	0 1 0
Mr. Chas. Herbert.....	1 0 0	Miss Susan Carpenter ..	0 10 0
Mrs. B. Barrow.....	0 1 0	Mrs. E. B. Clough.....	1 0 0
Miss Laura Ainsworth		Miss C. P. Cloughrey.....	1 0 0
(trav. exps.).....	0 7 0	Miss L. Doughty.....	0 2 8
Miss Charlotte M. Bayne		Mrs. M. Agar-Dunbar ..	1 1 0
(postage).....	0 1 0	Miss B. B. Gwynne ..	0 1 0
Clacton W.S.P.U.....	20 0 0	Mrs. A. E. Fleet.....	0 2 0
Mrs. O. M. Boord (di-		Mrs. Isabel Earle.....	2 2 0
verted subs.).....	0 10 0	Miss Leeta Johnson.....	0 5 0
Mrs. E. P. M. Cross.....	1 0 0	Misses B. & H. Harrison ..	0 2 0
Mrs. M. E. Anderson ..	1 10 8	Mrs. Constance Ferguson ..	1 0 0
Mrs. John Clarke.....	1 1 0	Miss Hannah M. Hay.....	0 10 0
Mrs. I. Blades.....	1 0 0	Miss N. M. G. Sutherland ..	0 1 0
Mrs. Bland (per Mrs.		Miss Helen F. L. Turnbull ..	1 2 0
Blades).....	0 10 0	Miss G. Naylor.....	1 1 0
Mrs. Gordon (do.).....	0 5 0	Mr. Martindale.....	1 1 0
Mrs. F. E. Rowe (doll		Mrs. Bentley McLeod ..	0 5 0
dressed in Holloway)	0 5 0	Miss Louise B. Rogers.....	1 0 0
Miss M. Morice.....	0 2 8	Miss Agnes Locke.....	0 10 0
Mrs. Wilson.....	0 1 0	Miss Jessie M. Penson.....	0 5 0
Mrs. Petre.....	1 0 0	Mrs. Bertha Thompson ..	1 1 0
Miss Isabella Watson ..	1 0 0	Miss Madge Schoenfeld ..	0 2 0
Mrs. Jethro Robinson ..	3 0 0	Miss E. M. Thomson.....	0 2 0
Miss Clara Wittgenstein ..	8 0 0	Miss L. B. Lane.....	0 2 8
Lady Constance Lytton	2 0 0	Miss Isabella Rimoul ..	1 0 0
Mrs. Plant (per Miss M.		Miss L. M. Stanhouse.....	0 10 0
H. Smith).....	0 2 8	Miss A. M. Wilson.....	0 5 0
Extra on "V. f. W." ..		Miss F. Low.....	0 2 8
At Charing Cross Pitch ..	0 7 6	Miss J. Gillipie Stuart ..	0 2 8
At Victoria Pitch.....	0 13 6	Miss Ethel Nightingale ..	1 0 0
Miss E. S. Evans.....	1 9 0	Miss H. E. Timmins.....	0 5 0
B. H. (for copies of		Miss Louise Reus.....	0 5 0
"March" sold).....	0 2 8	"Moneusis".....	0 10 6
Per Miss R. Barrett.....		Miss Marian Porter.....	2 0 0
Mrs. Joseph.....	0 10 0	Mrs. Louise B. Stevens ..	0 10 0
Mrs. Minnie Evans.....	0 10 6	Mrs. Anne Oldham.....	0 10 0
Mrs. Cyril Davies.....	0 2 8	Mrs. H. W. P. Norman ..	0 7 8
Per Miss E. Billing.....		Miss B. M. Swindells ..	0 5 0
Mrs. Bryen.....	0 2 8	Mrs. Jess McMurdo.....	0 5 0
Mrs. Redfern.....	0 5 0	Miss L. Maude Newill.....	1 0 0
Mrs. Rogers.....	0 1 0	Mrs. E. M. Tudor.....	0 10 0
Gillingham members		Lady Jenkinson.....	1 1 0
(balance Carnival		Miss O. H. L. Grant.....	0 2 8
prize).....	0 12 10	The Misses Rebbeck.....	0 1 0
Mrs. Rumsby.....	0 3 0	Miss Sara Falcke.....	1 1 0
Per Misses Crocker and Roberts		Miss Staley.....	0 5 0
Miss Halliday.....	0 1 0	Mrs. H. McGrath and	
Mrs. Archer.....	0 3 0	Friend.....	0 10 0
The Misses Clark.....	0 3 0	Mrs. Louise Mori.....	3 0 0
Miss Wright.....	0 1 0	Mrs. M. K. Richardson ..	1 0 0
Miss Ward.....	0 1 0		
W. W. W.....	0 5 0	William Ball Fund.	
Miss Osborne.....	0 1 0	Anon.....	25 0 0
Miss Pendleton.....	0 1 0	Anon.....	11 0 0
Mrs. Soar.....	0 1 0	Mrs. Henry Bury.....	0 10 0
Miss Lee.....	0 1 0	Miss Miriam Levy.....	0 1 8
Miss Page.....	0 1 0	A Friend (per Miss	
Mrs. Wilkins.....	0 1 0	Miriam Levy).....	0 1 0
Miss Lewin.....	0 1 0	Mrs. Bowker.....	1 0 0
Miss Woolley.....	0 1 0	Miss F. M. Collier.....	2 2 0
Miss Wilson.....	0 12 6	Miss A. B. Ashley.....	1 0 0
Mrs. and Miss Rothera ..	0 2 0	Miss Susie B. Hall.....	0 2 8
Mrs. Woller.....	0 1 0	Miss Millicent Gray.....	1 1 0
Per Miss C. Given.....		Miss Francesca Graham ..	0 10 0
Miss D. Henry.....	0 2 8	Miss Alice M. Baker.....	1 0 0
Per Miss H. Jollie.....		Mrs. Annetta S. Kidd ..	0 5 0
Mrs. Jollie.....	1 0 0	Miss Katie Hall.....	0 5 0
Miss Jollie.....	1 0 0	Geo. O. Everard, Req.....	0 10 0
Anon.....	0 1 8	Mrs. Alice Knight.....	0 5 0
Mrs. Mithall.....	0 5 0	Mrs. Boyd.....	0 2 0
Mrs. Vallance.....	0 2 8	Miss Louise Brooks.....	0 10 0
Per Miss F. Macaulay.....		Miss Ball.....	1 0 0
Miss Davis (per Birth-day Offering		Mrs. Bevan.....	5 0 0
(Mrs. C. B. Griffiths,		Anon, Plymouth.....	0 2 8
Johannesburg).....	1 11 6	Miss E. H. Downing.....	1 1 0
Extra on Literature ..	0 1 8	Miss Blanche A. Smith ..	3 3 0
Miss Nancy Smart.....	0 10 0	Mrs. Helen Tyson.....	1 0 0
Mr. & Mrs. Macaulay ..	0 10 0	Miss A. Potter.....	1 0 0
Per Mrs. M. Mansel ..		Miss Nelly Neave.....	1 0 0
Sales in Shop.....	0 18 10	Miss Mary B. Vibert.....	0 10 0
Per Miss F. Parker.....		Mrs. Saul Solomon.....	2 2 0
Telephone call.....	0 0 2	Miss G. Naylor.....	0 10 6
Use of flags.....	0 2 6	Miss Aileen Connor Smith ..	5 0 0
Sale of tarts.....	0 2 10	Mrs. M. A. Tucker.....	0 2 8
Anon—Helenburg ..	0 5 0	Miss Loxwood-King.....	1 0 0
Miss Wylie (trav. exps.) ..	0 4 2	Miss Eliza Simms.....	0 2 8
Miss J. Barrowman (do.) ..	0 9 6	Major W. J. Lister.....	1 0 0
Miss M. Barrowman (do.) ..	0 4 8	Miss Elizabeth Herriek ..	1 1 0
Dr. Marion Gluchrist (do.) ..	0 5 2	Miss Jocelyne Fry.....	0 10 0
Miss M. McArthur (do.) ..	0 4 8	Miss Sara Falcke.....	1 1 0
Dr. Chapman.....	0 4 8	Miss M. Peckey.....	0 2 0
Anon.....	0 1 8	Wandsworth W.S.P.U.....	1 0 0
Dr. Anna Martin.....	0 5 0	Mrs. L. T. Ellis.....	0 5 0
Mrs. Taylor.....	0 5 0	Per Lady Constance Lytton.....	1 0 0
Per Miss D. Pethick.....		Lady Betty Balfour.....	2 2 0
Miss Hughes (sale of		Lady Constance Lytton ..	2 2 0
chain).....	2 2 0		
Per Mrs. A. Phillips.....		Membership Fees.....	4 9 8
Mrs. Cowman.....	0 5 8	Collections, Tickets, etc.....	43 10 2
Profit on Literature ..	0 8 1	London.....	1 9 1
Miss Sedman.....	0 1 0	Per Miss R. Barrett ..	3 15 9
Mrs. Tingle.....	0 5 6	Miss E. Billing.....	19 18 9
Mrs. Moor.....	1 0 0	Misses Crocker and	
		Roberts.....	1 4 2
		Mrs. Mansel.....	3 5 0
		Mrs. Taylor.....	30 17 8
		Miss Phillips.....	1 7 1
Fines in lieu of prison.		Total.....	£115,730 6 3
Miss B. C. Hunt.....	10 0 0		
Mrs. E. Coventry.....	1 0 0		
Mrs. M. M. Fleming ..	0 5 0		
Mrs. Catherine Holiday ..	2 0 0		
A Friend.....	0 10 0		

MR. LLOYD GEORGE AT THE ALBERT HALL.

No New Government Pronouncement.

Evasive Answers to Important Questions.

The eagerly anticipated meeting of the National Union of Women Suffrage Societies in the Royal Albert Hall, with Mr. Lloyd George as the principal speaker, took place on Friday last. Mrs. Fawcett was in the chair, and among the other speakers were Mrs. Philip Snowden, Miss Frances Sterling, and Lord Lytton; but, naturally, interest centred round the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the pronouncement that he was expected to make.

What Would He Say?

Would Mr. Lloyd George finally set at rest all fears about the Referendum? Would he demonstrate how his amendment could be carried? Would he indicate at what time in the Session the proposed Reform Bill would be introduced? Those who expected a straight answer on any of these questions were doomed to be disappointed. Mr. Lloyd George, though he admitted at the beginning of his speech that his audience were entitled to know the position of the Government, and not merely his own personal position, which was "of comparative insignificance," made no new pronouncement of any kind as to what the attitude of the Government was to be. He merely repeated the Prime Minister's statement of November last. As to the time of introduction of the Reform Bill he dismissed the matter as unimportant. As to the Referendum he stated that he would personally oppose it; but that only the Prime Minister could be expected to give an answer as to the attitude of the Government. And as to the question how his amendment could be carried in view of the fact that by its nature it would alienate Unionist support while at the same time there were enough anti-suffrage members of the Coalition to defeat it, his reply was a triumph of evasion. He simply answered that he trusted to get success because there was a majority of Suffragists in the House.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S SPEECH.

Mr. Lloyd George said: I have addressed party meetings on the subject of Women's Suffrage, but Mrs. Fawcett is perfectly right in assuming that this is the first purely non-party gathering. (A Voice: "Traitor!")—that I have had the privilege of addressing on the subject of Women's Suffrage. (Some interruption from the gallery and cries of "Order!") I think I can go further—(A woman's voice from a box: "And leave the Cabinet!")—and say I think I am the first Cabinet Minister who has ever addressed a non-party gathering on the Suffrage question—(cheers)—and I am proud of that distinction. (Hear, hear.) I am not going to detain you to-night to discuss the merits of the question. I assume that you have all made up your minds on that question. I am not going to discuss the question to-night of whether women ought to have the same share in the privileges of citizenship as they now bear in the burdens of citizenship.

"My view of the Government's Position."

I have come here to discuss the position of the Suffrage and its Parliamentary prospects—(cheers)—and to tell you frankly, not merely what my own position is in the matter—that is a matter of comparative insignificance—(hear, hear, and laughter)—I am glad to have laid down some proposition, at any rate, which will command the assent and the approval of that courteous lady in the box there—(cheers)—but, what is much more important, my view of what the position of the Government is. What is the position at the present moment? (A Voice: "Rotten," and another Voice: "You are stopping progress.") A question has been sent to me by a suffrage society. I have been invited to answer it here, but you must listen, otherwise I will not answer it. (Cheers.) I propose to give you a perfectly frank and straightforward statement of the position, and if it is not satisfactory the chairman has already told you that I am here for twenty minutes to be shot at later on. What is the position? This is called a democratic country. By that is meant that the citizens who are expected to obey the law are those who make the law. That is not true.

Some Truisms.

At least half the adult citizens of this country, whose lives are deeply affected by every law that is carried, have absolutely no voice in making the law. They have no more voice in the matter than the horses that drag their loads and masters to the polling-booth. A drunken loafer, who has not earned a living for years, is consulted by the Constitution in questions like the training and upbringing of children, the national settlement of religion in Wales and elsewhere, and he is often consulted on the best method of settling a big question. But the wife whose industry keeps him and his household from beggary, who actually pays the rent which constitutes him

a voter—that is what I mean, the rent and taxes which constitute him a voter—who is really responsible for his qualifications, she is not taken into account in the slightest degree. That is a position of things that no unprejudiced person can doubt for a single moment. (Hear, hear.) It is a barbarous anachronism.

And what I have got to say is this, that this year of grace, this session of Parliament, you have got the best opportunity you have ever had to put an end for ever to that system. (Cheers, and a voice: "We will put an end to it.") Mr. George: I hope you will, but you have got to get the assistance of members of Parliament. (A Voice: "We want a Government measure.") Mr. George: Well, that is what I am trying to do in my feeble way, but you must allow me first of all to state the case—(cheers)—and if you are dissatisfied with it, you can express your opinion afterwards. But you had better not judge me before you have heard what I have got to say.

The Importance of this Session.

Well, now, that is the fact that I want to get well into the minds of all those who are labouring for the attainment of this purpose—that this year, this session, determines, so far as the next general election is concerned, the fate of this question. I am proceeding on the assumption that the House of Lords, if it is sent up there, may reject it. (Hear, hear.) I am not an authority on the views of the House of Lords, but if I am wrong, all the better. If they do pass it, well and good. But you had better prepare your plans on the assumption that they will throw it out; at any rate, the first and second time, and that it will go through the third. They will get two bites at it.

What I want to emphasise is this. It is exceedingly important that we should realise exactly what the position is, and lay our plans accordingly. Here is an opportunity never provided before. Do not forget that. You may be dissatisfied with it; you may, as Mrs. Fawcett very well put it, wish that the opportunity were improved upon. But, still, the fact remains, it is the best opportunity that has ever yet been given to the Suffrage. And instead of quarrelling with your opportunities make the best of them.

Now what is the Government promise? I will summarise it; I will give it in detail later on, and I must really ask your patience; do not interrupt prematurely.

Following upon an interruption at this point, a lady in the front row and shouted, "Will you behave like ladies for once?"

Why not a Government Measure?

Mr. George: Now that is an appeal I am sure you cannot resist. (Laughter.) What, summarised shortly, is the Government promise? That a Reform Bill will be introduced this year for the simplification and extension of the franchise to men; that it will be carried through this year. (A Voice: "When?") From the Suffrage point of view, it is immaterial, so long as it is carried this session. Do not then let us pick quarrels. Do not let us make them merely in order to be disagreeable. (Laughter.) The measure will be drafted in such a form that a woman's amendment can be incorporated in it. (A Voice: "Why not a Government measure?")

If you only have patience, I will tell you. I really cannot say fifty things at the same time. I am telling you what the promise is—that if it is incorporated in the measure, the Government will be responsible for it as a whole. Now before I come to some criticisms which have been directed at that, before I come to set forth in detail the explicit character of the pledges, let me point out what that means, and do let us examine it calmly. What has hitherto been the one insurmountable object in the path of this reform? (A Voice: "It has not been a Government measure.") I agree. That is the only sensible answer I have had from that quarter. (Laughter.) Why has it not been a Government measure? I am going to tell you. (A Voice: "You do not stick to your principles.") That is sheer nonsense. (Laughter and hear, hear.)

Mr. George: It is, because you must not assume that a man who disagrees with you is not a man of principle. (Cheers, and a Voice: "You say you do agree.") This platform will be occupied in about a week's time by men who disagree with you and me on the Suffrage. I know them. There are no more honourable men in this land than those; and they are men of principle. It is because they do not accept those principles that they are not here. If they did—they are men of courage, they are straightforward men, and they would have been here. It is because you have a conflict of principles.

Mr. George Corrected.

Very well, what is the position? You have not got a single party in this country that is agreed on the question of the Suffrage. (A Voice: "The Labour Party.") You are perfectly right. I accept the correction. (Cheers, and a Voice: "What about the miners?") There has been some difference of opinion with the miners. (Laughter.) But, after all, the Labour Party are not, for the moment at any rate, an alternative so far as a Parliamentary majority is concerned, and what I mean is that, so far as the two great parties that have hitherto in turn governed

England and the Empire are concerned, not one of them is united on the question of the Suffrage.

"Convert them!"

Take the Liberal Party. Three-fourths of the Liberal members of Parliament support Suffrage Bills. (Cheers.) Two-thirds of the members of the Cabinet will vote for the Suffrage amendment when it comes on. But you must recollect that one-fourth of the members of the Party are opposed to it. (A Voice: "Convert them!") Well, I shall never do it unless you are silent. (Laughter and applause.) It is this sort of exhibition that makes it difficult to convert.

Very well, come to the Conservative Party. There the position is reversed. I am not criticising it, but I am stating facts. Two-thirds, or three-fourths—Lord Lytton will correct me if I am wrong—of the members of the Conservative and Unionist Party are opposed to the Suffrage, and fully three-fourths of their leaders are opposed to it. That is the difficulty. (Hear, hear.) The first fact that you have got to get into your minds is this—and I am quite sure you have got it—that no party can form a Cabinet on the Suffrage. You cannot, and, therefore, you must get some other method of proceeding. That is the method which the Government pledge has thrown open to us.

Splitting the Liberal Party.

Now the question has been put to me, seeing that you are in a majority in the Liberal Party, why don't you as the majority enforce your will? Seeing that you are a majority in the Cabinet, why don't you enforce your will in the Cabinet? Well, now, I see that that question interests a number of friends here. Now what is the reason? If you attempted to enforce your will, although you are in a majority, in the Cabinet or in party, you would hopelessly shatter both. ("No!") It is no use saying "No." I know what I am talking about. You must remember that Cabinets and parties exist not merely for the promotion of one question, but for several. And just follow me for a moment in examining what would happen if we took the advice of some of our very impulsive friends.

The first thing that would happen would be such a serious division in the party that it would be paralysed for all practical purposes. Your object may be merely to turn out the Government—merely to injure a Government which you may dislike. That is a perfectly legitimate object, but that is not the purpose for which we are here to-night. We are here, as men and women of all parties, to consider the best method of carrying the Suffrage. (Cheers.)

And I will be perfectly frank with you. If anyone attempted it, you could not form a Suffrage Government that would live for five minutes. ("Why not?") Because, although you may not know it, a Cabinet cannot exist without a Parliamentary majority. I will tell you why a majority on one question alone is not enough to keep any Cabinet together. You must know—you must have some elementary knowledge of the Parliamentary machine in this country. (Hear, hear, and laughter, and a Voice: "You haven't a majority without the Irish.") What does that mean? That you cannot get any Cabinet or any member of a Cabinet, you cannot get any member of Parliament—I challenge you to name one on either side—who is prepared to wreck his Cabinet, his party, or his party programme merely for the sake of forcing his will for a moment on this one issue. (A Voice: "Now is your time, Lloyd George; rise to the occasion.")

Would it Help Woman Suffrage?

Now let me carry you to the next point. Supposing you found Liberal Ministers prepared to undertake that responsibility—of wrecking their party, and the programme which they have been returned to carry out, and for which they are trustees—has it ever occurred to you for a moment whether that would advance the suffrage by a single yard? (Interruption.) Supposing you turned out the Cabinet, two-thirds of which is for the suffrage, destroyed a Parliament with a majority of a hundred for it, put out of power a Government three-fourths of whose supporters are pro-suffrage—what is the alternative? (A Voice: "Deaths, not words.") The alternative is a Unionist Administration. (A Voice: "It cannot be worse.") Don't you be too sure. I am discussing it now purely from the point of view of the suffrage. What would be the position? You would then have in power an Administration three-fourths of whose members and supporters would be anti-suffrage.

An Appeal for Unity.

I am going to challenge anyone here or anyone outside who can produce a single statesman of authority on the other side who will undertake that if a Unionist Administration comes into power they will put through a Women's Suffrage Bill. (Cheers.) I will go beyond that. I will challenge you to produce any statesman of authority who will undertake that a Unionist Administration would ever give the facilities which the present Prime Minister has given for a Women's Suffrage Bill. (Cheers and booing.) There is only one way by which we can carry the suffrage through this year. (A Voice: "Make it a Government measure.") You won't get that. There is only one way,

(Interruption.) I have already given you warning that if this goes on I shall certainly not answer questions later on. There is only one way by which you can carry it this year—it is the way which is shown by the Prime Minister's declaration, and if we proceed along that road, all sections, all parties of Suffragists together unitedly, without jostling, elbowing and clawing each other, we will get through. I am convinced. (A Voice: "What about the Referendum?") I am coming to that by and by. I am convinced that if we act unitedly, nothing can prevent our triumph this year but those who make it difficult and impossible for us to march upon that road seem to me to be deliberately throwing away the greatest chance we have ever had in this country of carrying through this great measure of emancipation.

Mr. Asquith's Pledges.

I meant to have repeated the exact pledges given by the Prime Minister, on behalf of the Government, and I want you to realise exactly what they are. They were replies to questions put by Mrs. Fawcett—(cheers)—and if you will allow me I would congratulate the movement upon having a leader worthy of its dignity and greatness. (Cheers.) These are the pledges. Mrs. Fawcett put this question to the Prime Minister: "Is it the intention of the Government that the Reform Bill shall go through all its stages in 1912?" Mr. Asquith replied: "Certainly. It is our intention, and we hope to carry it through in that year if we exist." The second question was: "Will the Bill be drafted in such a way as to admit of any amendment introducing women on other terms than men?" Mr. Asquith replied: "Certainly." The third question was: "Will the Government undertake not to oppose such an amendment?" Mr. Asquith replied: "Certainly. The Government is prepared to leave the matter to the House of Commons." And the fourth question, and I think in many respects the most important was: "Will the Government regard any amendment enfranchising women, if carried, as an integral part of the Bill, and defend it in all its stages?" The Prime Minister answered: "Certainly." Well, now—

A voice: What do you say? Mr. George: What do I say? I certainly agree with every word that was said by the Prime Minister. This declaration was made by the Prime Minister not merely on his own behalf, as he repeatedly said, but made on behalf of the Government. Let me say this about that question: You may disagree with Mr. Asquith personally on his views politically, but I know him, and I know that there is no man in England who has a more sensitive regard to his pledged word than he has. And when I hear suggestions that the Government propose not to introduce a Reform Bill, or if they do introduce it that it will not be persevered with, or that it will not be drafted in such a way as to give opportunity for amendment, I say that is an imputation of deep dishonour, which I decline to discuss. No Government could commit such an outrage on public faith without forfeiting the respect of every honest man and woman in the land. (Hear, hear.)

"This Session."

You go through all these pledges, and you will find that Mr. Asquith repeated in every phrase and form these undertakings on behalf of the Government that the Bill will be introduced and carried through all its stages this session—(a voice: "What time?")—that it would be in such a form that it could be amended so as to convert it into a Manhood and Womanhood Suffrage Bill; that once these amendments were incorporated the Government, as a Government, would undertake responsibility for the Bill in its amended form. (Cheers.) He ended by saying—and the words are notable in this connection—"We are prepared, both in the letter and the spirit, to carry out the whole of the pledges we have given to you." (Cheers.) There is a suggestion that we have receded from that great declaration. On whose authority is that charge made? Who says so, at least who of any consequence says so? (Laughter and cheers.) I believe in the good faith of my chief and of my colleagues, and I act upon that.

The Referendum.

I meant to have said a word about the Referendum. I cannot imagine how any Liberal who declines to submit questions in which he is specially interested to the caprices of a referendum can fairly and justly submit Women's Suffrage to that test. (Cheers.) Whatever objections there may be to the Referendum on questions like Home Rule and Welsh Disestablishment which we Liberals entertain, it seems to me that they apply with two-fold force to the cause of Women's Suffrage. What are they? That it undermines the authority of Parliament; that the Referendum is costly, not merely to the State, but to those who have charge of great causes; that it is a bonus on injustice, especially on opulent, powerful, rich injustice; that it helps the monopolists against the poor, the helpless, the least powerful members of the community.

You have seen it work in America. When ever there was a Referendum on the women's question you always found the liquor traffic, the great slum-owners, federating to fight against Women's Suffrage. They spent enormous sums of money. Why? It was

business for them. If they defeated the Suffrage, their return was hundreds per cent. on the money they had invested in overthrowing Woman Suffrage. It is not fair; I say again that the Referendum is a costly denial of justice under these conditions. (Cheers.)

"Some Sort of Medium"

These are not the things I am most afraid of. I will tell you what I am most afraid of. It is that when you come to bring your Bill before the House of Commons, or move your amendment, the Suffragists, who are united on the principle of Suffrage, may not be united upon the particular method of carrying it out. That will be fatal. You have one section who want Adult Woman Suffrage, and may not support the Conciliation Bill. On the other hand, you have got the Conciliation Bill, and some of its supporters decline to support Adult Suffrage. Unless you find some medium course, some method of bringing them together, then, I fear, it will be fatal to our success. My appeal to those who mean business—to those who really want it through (hear, hear)—my appeal to them is that they should put their heads together and try to secure some sort of medium formula to unite both sections, so that when the time comes for moving the amendment in the House of Commons it will be an amendment that will secure the support of all sections of the Suffrage party.

The Need for Women's Votes.

There never was a time when the nation stood more in need of the special experience, instinct, and sympathy of womanhood in the government of our affairs. (Loud cheers.) The questions pressing for settlement—housing (a voice: "Woman Suffrage!"), the cost of bread and the necessities of life, education, the up-bringing and the medical treatment of children, sickness, temperance, and the great question of the national adjustment of religion, whether inside schools or outside—all questions in which women are deeply interested—surely they should have the right to express their opinion upon them. (Cheers.) What is more, who can tell what the toil and trouble of the international and social cauldron may bring forth? (A voice: "Women know!") There are the great questions of peace and war, and who can tell what will happen? Have the women no interest in that great question? There has never been a war yet in the history of the human race to which women did not contribute their share of the indemnity of suffering. (Hear, hear.) They have the right to a voice in shaping the policy and in controlling that destiny. (Cheers.)

There is a great labour unrest. (Hear, hear.) During the last few days we have had clamours on all sides for Government intervention. After all, when Governments intervene, Governments are the creation of the electorate. (A voice: "We pay for them.") If you had a great strike in this country who would suffer the most? ("Women, poor, voteless women.") Have you ever seen a great strike? I have. I know that the burden of starvation falls upon the women, not merely themselves, but in watching the hunger of their children. (Further interruptions occurring at this point, Mr. Lloyd George turned to Mrs. Fawcett and said, "I shall certainly not answer questions.")

All I say is this (proceeded the Chancellor), that in this legacy of life women have a right, in the language of legal precedent, to share and share alike. (Cheers.) As they have borne the full share of the burden, they have a right to claim also a fair share of the privileges which will enable them to lighten that burden. (Loud cheers.)

As the Chancellor resumed his seat a portion of the audience broke into the song, "He's a jolly good fellow," and there was a counter-demonstration of booing and hissing.

QUESTIONS.

After the other speeches were given, Mr. Lloyd George said:—A number of questions have been sent in to me; some were sent in before the meeting. It is no fault of mine that the latter were not answered. On the contrary, I proposed answering them, but friends of those who sent in the questions made it quite impossible to proceed with the answers to their questions. The questions which have been sent in to me—(interruption)—if you do not want to listen to the answers to questions (it is very late), I think I should meet the wishes of everybody by resuming my seat. ("No, no!")

There are three questions practically when you boil them down. One is the Referendum; the second is with regard to my attitude on the Conciliation Bill, and the third is with regard to the difficulty of obtaining a parliamentary majority for any amendment except a narrow one. I will take the three and deal with them as shortly as possible.

The Conciliation Bill.

With regard to the Conciliation Bill, I have never concealed my attitude towards the narrow franchise Bill. I have held that view during the whole time I have been in Parliament, and I expressed it and still hold it, and am still entitled to hold it. (Cheers.) But if I were convinced that no other franchise were possible, then I have always said my attitude would be a different one. I think it is so important that you should get franchise for women embodied in an Act of Parliament that if I were convinced that owing to parliamentary difficulties no other measure were possible, I should certainly support, much as I dislike it, even the Conciliation Bill. (Cheers.) But I am not convinced. I have believed it possible to carry through the House of Commons a measure for the enfranchisement of women upon the basis of every extension, which up to the present

has been given in any country, of franchise to women. In our Colonies, in the United States of America, in Norway, the franchise has been conceded upon broad democratic principles, and I am firmly convinced that with unity and common sense we shall be able to carry it this year. (Cheers.)

The Referendum.

The second question is the Referendum. The question is put to me: "Do you express your own opinions or the opinions of the Government?" There is only one Minister who is entitled to express the opinions of the Government, and that is the Prime Minister. That question was not put to me at the time of the deputation to me, because at that moment there was no suggestion, so far as I could recollect, by any prominent person that the Referendum should be applied to women's suffrage. For the moment I express my own individual opinion, and I shall stand by it.

A Reform Bill Amendment.

The third question is this: "How do you imagine that a parliamentary majority can be secured for an amendment to the Reform Bill—an amendment for the extension of votes to women, on the Government Reform Bill?" The only reason why is because there is a majority of Suffragists in the House of Commons. Up to the present they have demonstrated on every occasion that they are in a majority. I think that they will do so again—in fact, I feel perfectly confident of it. I have quite clearly shown you that the danger is with regard to the methods, and I have made an appeal to the Suffragists of all sections that we should meet together to discuss that question, and that we should come to a common agreement as to the character of the amendment which will be moved to the Reform Bill. If that is done, I venture to predict to you, as my last word, that before this year is out we shall have won a great parliamentary triumph.

POLITICAL PRISONERS.

In the *Times* for February 20 there appeared an interesting communication from the Lisbon correspondent. It appears that the British Minister, Sir Arthur Hardinge, had just completed an unofficial visit to the Lisbon Central Prison, the Limoeiro, and had interviewed some of the political prisoners, including Senhor Azevedo Castello Branco. The paragraph says it is understood that these political prisoners, although not badly treated, are in prisons which are out-of-date and insanitary. The Government has, however, promised improvements. It is interesting to note that the Portuguese authorities and the British Minister evidently recognise the difference between political and other prisoners.

SENEGAL WOMEN HONOURED.

It is interesting to note how public attention is being drawn to the part women take in war. In *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, on February 16, we published a picture of Chinese women soldiers, and now from the *Daily Mail* Paris Correspondent comes the news that the splendid gallantry under fire of the wives of France's black Senegalese troops is celebrated in a touching Order of the Day issued by the commander of the French troops. The order, which is published by the *Armée Coloniale*, specially mentions the following killed in the service of France:—Musina, wife of Corporal Ahmed Yacub, mortally wounded at the battle of Talmoust, June 14, 1908, while distributing cartridges in the firing line; Fatma, wife of Corporal Tarors, killed; Oumba, wife of Private Samba Diul, killed; Bintu Korro, wife of Private Tome, killed. The order gives the names of two other women who distinguished themselves at this engagement by their courage in handing out cartridges under a galling fire.

A TRUE STORY.

SUFFRAGETTE: (convulsing, to small tired-looking girl behind counter in a little shop) "Your Mother is a Municipal Voter is she not?"
GIRL: Oh, no thank you Miss, she only suffers from being old and infirm.



Master George: I've got something wonderful to tell you if you're quiet.
Miss W.S.P.U.: Well, what is it?
Master George: Queen Anne is dead!

HOW SHE BECAME A SUFFRAGETTE.

A True Story.

As she was on her way home after her "day out" (she was a domestic servant) she bought some sweets for her fellow servant. In Oxford Street the bag broke, and she was in despair, when she happened to catch sight of a *VOTES* seller. She bought a paper and wrapped up the sweets in it. Suddenly something about the low rate of infant mortality in New Zealand on the front page of the paper attracted her attention, and she stopped to read it regardless of the sweets, which, as the account continued overleat, dropped one by one to the ground. By the time she had got home she had no sweets, but she no longer cared about them. She read the paper through, and ordered the next number at a newsagent's, and finally decided to take it in regularly, going each "evening out" to fetch it. Subsequently she attended some of our evening free meetings. So greatly was she stirred and impressed by all she heard that when the time came for a militant protest she decided to throw up her situation and join it. She was arrested and subsequently imprisoned.

A. P. M.

"BUNTY" A SUFFRAGIST.

In spite of the fact that the Prime Minister has shown his approval of "Bunty" by visiting her at the Haymarket on several occasions, it must be confessed that Bunty is a Suffragist. The fact is made quite clear in a delightful article on "The True Story of 'Bunty Pulls the Strings'" in the issue of the *Pall Mall Magazine* for March.

Pall Mall Gazette.

WOMAN! ARISE!

Woman! Arise! And take thy fitting place, Amid the armies of the human race. Gird on thy sword of justice and of right, Nor rest till victory crowns the valiant fight. Uplift thy heart and mind, and gather strength From thy increasing forces. Till at length With overwhelming power and mighty dash Thou scatter'st to the winds thy foes at last. Thy foes—Alas! that women can be found Who seek to crush their sex upon the ground, There to be trampled 'neath the grinding heel Of inequality,—against which there's no appeal. To these—thy sisters—I would say, "Take care. Thou dost not still lie sleeping, unaware Of what this glorious struggle means for thee—The pray'd-for, fought-for goal of woman's liberty."
Dublin. KATHLEEN.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The large meeting that assembled at the Albert Hall last night to hear Mr. Lloyd George speak on Women's Suffrage does not seem to have obtained much solid satisfaction. The position still remains exactly where it was before. The Suffragists and their friends still ask that the question of votes for women should be treated by itself; Mr. Lloyd George replies that the Government will only allow the question to be touched in the shape of an amendment to a general measure for the reform of the electoral laws. The enthusiasts for the cause can hardly be expected to be satisfied with such a method of meeting their claims. No one yet knows upon what lines the promised Franchise Bill of the Government is to proceed, and it must raise issues of a very highly contentious character, which may altogether submerge the question of suffrage for women.

There is, moreover, a further difficulty. The Conciliation Bill put forward with the approval of the vast majority of women Suffragists is a measure which by virtue of its moderation excites comparatively little hostility. What the average man demands is not the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to the limited number of women who already possess the local government franchise, but the wholesale enfranchisement of all the women in the kingdom. Yet apparently it is this latter measure alone that Mr. Lloyd George is willing to support. That is why even when speaking in favour of woman suffrage he is greeted with shouts of "Traitor!" The women believe that though he professes to be their friend, he is taking a course which postpones indefinitely the realisation of their hopes.

—*The Daily Graphic*, February 24.

Nothing could have been franker or more sensible than the Chancellor's statement of the position as it affects the Cabinet and the party. Our leaders are to be congratulated on having handled successfully a matter over which Ministers less loyal to each other and their common causes might easily have made shipwreck; and women Suffragists are also to be congratulated on their excellent prospects, which cannot now, we believe, be withheld from them even by the out-of-date tactics of a portion of the militants. Henceforth, or very shortly, it is understood, members of the Cabinet, both suffragist and anti-suffragist, will not take the platform on this subject. That seems the best course in the circumstances; the incursion of Ministers into a party arena on opposite sides would be too much like the participation of Homer's gods in the battles of the "Iliad"—an embarrassment for each other and a nuisance to the lesser combatants. Nevertheless we are glad that the Chancellor has been able to give at least this splendid send-off to the campaign which sooner or later, and we hope sooner, can only end in one way.—*The Daily Chronicle*, Feb. 24.

Obviously, from the point of view of effective political action in the carrying of a Bill through Parliament, there are great drawbacks in the absence of the usual party motive and party machinery. We are so accustomed in this country to fighting our political battles by these means that we find it difficult to take any great political question quite seriously which does not employ or appeal to them. When trusted leaders are seen taking opposite sides on a critical question the prudent politician is apt to think he had better wait till they have made up their differences, and it is small consolation to him to know that the opposite party is no less divided against itself and that there is a composite majority, even a large one, in favour of a particular view. His heart does not warm as it has been used to do when party and principle have pulled together and he has marched forward as one of a united and triumphant host. Yet, as Mr. Lloyd George pointed out last night, it is under these unaccustomed and difficult conditions that the battle must be fought. We could wish it were otherwise, and that so great a preponderance of Liberal opinion should declare itself in favour of this last and greatest measure of enfranchisement that a Liberal Government should feel itself justified or compelled to make it its own and throw the whole weight of its responsibility and conviction into the scale. There indeed would be new strength and life for Liberalism. But if Liberals are compelled to forego this gain there is no reason why women should wait for their enfranchisement till a whole party is prepared to make their cause its own. Parliament is the last authority, and majorities in the House of Commons count by heads and ignore parties.

—*The Manchester Guardian*, February 24.

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer should frequently have found it necessary to appeal for a fair hearing is, no doubt, to be regretted. But that his audience had ample justification for feeling wholeheartedly dissatisfied, if not for giving such expression to its dissatisfaction, is fairly clear.—*The Irish Times*, February 24.

It is all very well for him to protest that the present is "the best opportunity Women's Suffrage has ever had." That may be the case, though we doubt it. It is clear that Mr. Lloyd George does not regard it as good enough to justify wild rejoicings on his own part. He seems inclined to regard it a little dubiously, and the Suffragists—if they remember to make the usual allowances for temperamental bias when they consider his statistics—will not improbably contemplate it with irate dismay. On the Chancellor of the Exchequer's reckoning there is a majority of a hundred in the House of Commons upon the women's side, so that from his point of view all ought to be well. But he seems to forget that the palmy days of the Conciliation Bill are over, and that—chiefly through his own instrumentality—the whole Suffragist movement has undergone a radical transformation.—*The Birmingham Post*, February 24.

There are sixty-six pledged anti-Suffragists in the Coalition, counting 132 on a division. Since the Unionist Party will stand firm against a Bill which has never been before the country, the Woman Suffrage amendment—if ever it is reached—is ensured of defeat. This Mr. Lloyd George must know. It is to say the least, disingenuous to pretend that all women will be voting in 1914.—*The Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, February 24.

He lost his good humour, and showed signs of anger. It was an ordeal which even Mr. Lloyd George would not care to repeat. His labour, I fancy, has been in vain, for though he preached to the converted he failed to convince the meeting that he was the friend of Suffrage.—*The Western Morning News*, February 24.

CABINET MINISTERS INTERVIEWED.

Replying to a deputation of Anti-Suffragists who waited on him at Bristol on Saturday last, Mr. Birrell said that so far as he was concerned, although the question had only lately become prominent, it had been in his mind and in minds of the people he was in contact with for very many years. As a young man he remembered the arguments of Mr. John Stuart Mill, which powerfully affected him at the time.

After referring to the passage of the Married Women's Property Act, "not in consequence of broken windows or broken bones, nor, indeed, intelligent interest on the part of the male elector, but to great lawyers," Mr. Birrell said that he could not honestly and gravely see any very great distinction between voting for huge corporations like Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Birmingham, and Bristol and going into polling-booths and voting on what were called national questions. He really could not quite divide a woman's intellect into those watertight compartments. He felt a difficulty in understanding why, after a time, a Parliamentary vote should have the devastating effect that had been attributed to it upon the homes and characters of English women.

Nobody hated party government and party extravagance more than he did. He should like to see far more independence of mind and judgment exercised by the representatives of the people. He should like to see the party Whip relax far oftener than it did. If women were admitted to the franchise in reasonable numbers he should look to see some mitigatory influences in that respect. Women, whether they liked it or not, were going to play a greater part intellectually than hitherto in the government of thought and in the direction of thought, which was far more important than Parliamentary work. They helped to make the atmosphere in public life, and he looked forward to the time when the measure of responsibility and public duty might deflect some of their energies into more useful channels than those in which they were at present running. They must recognise that women were in science, art, literature, and administrative work, in medicine, and it might be in law sometimes. Women, whether they had a vote or not, were not going to be kept out of those things.

Dangers of the Amendment.

After referring to organisation and other difficulties in the way of a Referendum, Mr. Birrell said the Woman's Suffrage question was one upon which it was impossible for Liberals or Tories to agree. The members of the Cabinet were going on the platform expressing different views, which seemed unseemly. But they had no unity of faith in religion, and how could they have unity of faith in politics? It was stated that if upwards of a million women were put on the electoral rolls by the Conciliation Bill others must follow. That was rather an admission that terrible consequences would not follow, and he had no doubt in time the larger franchise would follow the smaller; but at present he would not force the pace, and was not disposed to increase the women's electorate at a gulp. So far as the Conciliation Bill was concerned, the advocates of Women's Suffrage were troubled as to the best course to pursue. He hoped they would stick to the Bill, because if they lay in wait for amendments they would stand the chance of losing all.

MR. BIRRELL ON THE REFERENDUM.

After addressing a meeting in the Vestry Hall, Pennywell Road, Bristol, on Thursday in last week, Mr. Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, replied to a question he was asked: What is the Government going to do with regard to the suggested Referendum on Women's Suffrage? How is the amendment to be carried?

In reply he said: Well, so far as I know, the Government is not going to do anything with regard to the suggested Referendum. For my own part I entirely agree with the observations of Sir Edward Grey at Manchester—that at this stage of the proceedings it would not be a right or proper thing to introduce the Referendum, nor do I know exactly how you would determine to whom it would be. If it were only to men, women might fairly object. If to women, I think those who are opposed to Women's Suffrage might fairly say: "If they are to vote upon a question of such vast importance, I don't see why they should not vote on everything else."

This answer is entirely unsatisfactory. No one supposes that the Government will, themselves, impose a Referendum on Women's Suffrage. The question is, whether they will, as a Government, resist it as they would if it were proposed as Home Rule or Welsh Disestablishment. Mr. Birrell seems to imply that they will not.

On the second point in the question Mr. Birrell said: The only way in which an amendment can be carried is by the votes of the people. Of course the vote would be perfectly free, as all votes ought to be, and in theory it is free, and people vote as they like. I am a very strong advocate of the Conciliation Bill, and I am glad to say it has got a good place. With the facilities Mr. Asquith has already promised, I see no reason why that Bill should not be successfully proceeded with, and, I think,

carried into law, so far as the House of Commons is concerned, in the ordinary way during this session.

MR. CHURCHILL.

Mr. Churchill has addressed the following letter to the honorary secretary of the Dundee Branch of the Women's Freedom League:

"Dear Madam,—In reply to your letter of the 19th instant, I have in the first instance to refer you to my statements made before the last election in Dundee on the subject of Woman's Suffrage to a deputation of your own league. From this extract, which I enclose, you will apprehend the answers which I shall give to your questions.

"I shall vote against the second reading of the Conciliation Bill, and shall oppose its passing into law. With regard to the Government Reform Bill, I prefer to wait until that measure is introduced before pronouncing upon hypothetical amendments to it. I may say generally, however, that I believe the giving of the Parliamentary vote to seven or eight millions of women is a step which the country is not prepared to take at the present time.

"Lastly, the fact that Woman's Suffrage was not included in any form in the Government Reform Bill would not prevent me from supporting it on the third reading.—Yours, etc.,

(Signed) WINSTON S. CHURCHILL.

London, February 24, 1912."

The following extract from the reply given at Dundee on December 2, 1910, by Mr. Churchill to the deputation of the Women's Freedom League, and referred to in the above letter, will help further to elucidate the right hon. gentleman's position:—

"The Prime Minister has given a pledge that in the next Parliament, if a Bill is introduced which the House of Commons approves of, and which is capable of free amendment, facilities will be given for that Bill to be carried through the Commons. There is no chance of that pledge being altered to a pledge that facilities will be given in the first Session of Parliament. So far as I am myself concerned, I am still of opinion that the sex disqualification is not a true or logical disqualification, and I am therefore in favour of the principle of women being enfranchised. But I decline utterly to pledge myself to any particular Bill at the present time. I will not vote for any Bill which I consider will have the effect of unfairly altering the balance between parties by giving an undoubted preponderance to the property vote; and I will not vote for any Bill unless I am convinced that it has behind it the genuine majority of the electors. This is my position, and it is very desirable that you should not build any undue hopes on any words I may say."

Mr. Churchill's Record.

It will be remembered that during the Manchester (North-West) by-election, April, 1908, when pressed to win votes and anxious to obtain favour with women, Mr. Churchill spoke as follows:—

"I will try my best, as and when occasion offers, because I do think sincerely that the women have always had a logical case, and they have now got behind them a great popular demand among women. It is no longer a movement of a few extravagant and excitable people, but a movement which is gradually spreading to all classes of women, and, that being so, it assumes the same character as franchise movements have previously assumed."

On April 15, 1908, at Manchester, Mr. Churchill, in reply to the question, "Do you favour the giving of votes to women, and will you do what you can to influence the Cabinet in that direction?" replied "Yes." On May 2, 1908, at a meeting of Women Liberals at Dundee, Mr. Churchill said that, so far as he was personally concerned, he was a friend of the movement, not one who dealt in words only, and promised glibly, and then, having given a vote, thought nothing more of it.

MR. URE AT ANDOVER.

Mr. Ure addressed a mass meeting in the Drill Hall at Andover on February 23, and, as a member of the Government, he was, of course, questioned by the ubiquitous Suffragette. Tickets for chairs at the meeting all contained a pledge at the back, that the holder would not disturb or interrupt the meeting, which the ticket secretary said, included the asking of questions. However, one Suffragette, escaped detection, and, when Mr. Ure dared to announce "that his party had never been more united," a tall woman, standing directly behind the last row of chairs, called out, "What!—on votes for women?" Mr. Ure, amid exclamations from all parts of the hall, assured her that he would support her cause; but the Suffragette wanted to know what form his support would take. "Would Mr. Ure try and induce the Government to make Woman's Suffrage a Government measure?" Mr. Ure: "You know quite well the division of opinion that exists," thereby flatly contradicting his previous statement. The Suffragette attempted to say something more, but by this time the uproar had become deafening, gentlemen on the platform contributing to the shouts and noise made by the audience. The yells of "Chuck her out," "Let the lady stay," "Go home," "Votes for Women," "Don't hurt her," continued for two or three minutes, while the crowd round the Suffragette was a seething mass of struggling forms, some trying to put her out and others to keep her in. Eventually she was ejected without suffering any apparent injury. After she had left a man continuously interrupted and heckled Mr. Ure on questions apart from the suffrage, but he was not thrown out. Do the Liberals of Andover only dare to eject women?

Mr. Ure however had not yet finished with the Suffragette, for when he got to the station, there she was again, and she had him all to herself till the London train came in as there were very few people on the platform. She gave him five written questions, which she had been prevented from putting to him at the meeting. These dealt mainly with a Government measure and with the Referendum.

Mr. Ure asserted his willingness to have answered these questions at the meeting if the audience had not prevented him by the noise they made. He said he would support Sir Edward Grey's proposed amendment to the Reform Bill, but that notwithstanding the precedents of 1867, he was not prepared to resign if the Government themselves did not bring in a Woman's Suffrage Bill. He said he was not in favour of a Referendum on Woman's Suffrage or any other question.

At this moment the London train came in, and ended Mr. Ure's explanations of his very half-hearted support of the Cause.

MR. LEWIS HARCOURT.

A meeting was held at the Mansion House on Wednesday afternoon on behalf of the London School of Tropical Medicine. The Lord Mayor presided, and Mr. Lewis Harcourt spoke.

No sooner had Mr. Harcourt risen than a woman sitting near the front jumped up and exclaimed, "Mr. Harcourt, how dare you stand there and call yourself a Liberal, while you—"

The remainder of the sentence was drowned by the Lord Mayor excitedly striking the table with his hammer, and calling her to order, asking: "Who are you, who are you? Send up your name." The Suffragette: You are false to your Liberal principles, Mr. Harcourt.

The Lord Mayor: Policeman, take her out. This is a private house. Take her out.

The Suffragette was removed by a policeman amid laughter.

Mr. Harcourt: This is not the form of disease on which I was going to speak this afternoon.

Another Suffragette rose and said, "Mr. Harcourt, how dare you stand there and—"

The Lord Mayor: Who are you? Officer, take her out! This is my house.

The Suffragette: I am an Australian.

The Lord Mayor: Officer, take her out!

The Suffragette was removed, shouting "You ought to be ashamed of yourselves."

A third Suffragette in another part of the room then jumped up and also repeated the words "Mr. Harcourt, how dare you—"

The Lord Mayor: Take her out. That fat woman there (laughter).

Immediately she was removed, a fourth Suffragette shouted, "We demand the vote."

We understand that two men also protested.

GLASGOW BY-ELECTION.

RESULT.

Mr. T. McKinnon Wood (L.) 8,539
Mr. F. A. Macquistan (U.) 8,062
Lib. Maj. 467

The figures in December, 1910, were as follows: T. McKinnon Wood (L.), 9,991; A. B. Chamberlain (U.), 7,874. Lib. maj., 1,917.

Another magnificent victory! Mr. McKinnon Wood, instead of returning to St. Stephen's with a majority of four figures as in December, 1910, goes back with a few hundreds only to his credit. To this result, as will be seen from the following account by our special correspondent, the W.S.P.U. largely contributed.

Monday Night.

The by-election has resulted in the return of Mr. McKinnon Wood by a majority of 469. That we have contributed in no small measure to this sweeping reduction in his majority there can be no manner of doubt. The bitter and sometimes insulting hostility evinced towards us by official Liberal workers was flattering proof of the effectiveness of our campaign.

Our canvassers were all over the constituency. The man or woman in St. Rollox who had not heard of the atrocious treatment inflicted by a so-called Liberal Government on Mr. Ball for making a chivalrous protest on behalf of women must be either blind or deaf. As always at the time of a by-election, our meetings have been splendidly encouraging. The last indoor meeting, held on Saturday night, was a particularly successful one. A novel feature was the large number of working women with babies in their arms; the passage leading to the hall was transformed into a kind of impromptu nursery, to which the mothers were obliged reluctantly to retire, at intervals, when the cries of the babies became too vociferous! It was noticeable that nearly every one of these women had made herself the possessor of a copy of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

The battle, so far as outdoor oratory is concerned, has raged mainly in the large open square in front of the Cathedral. Though surrounded on all sides by men bellowing forth their various political creeds, we have held our own valiantly. Home Rulers may thunder on the right, and Tariff Reformers on the left, but it is the clear, earnest voice of the Suffragette that attracts the biggest and most interested crowd.

"I'm a 'wi' you every time," said a respectable working man, emphatically. "More power to your elbow." "I'm seventy-five years old," remarked another, "and I've learnt more in an hour from one of your speakers than from all the political meetings I've ever attended in my life." Yet another declared, indignantly, that for five nights running he had sent up a question at Mr. McKinnon Wood's meeting on the subject of "Votes for Women" and had received no answer.

Of course we have not fought without encountering opposition, but, as always, we have thriven upon it. Consistent, malicious interruption of our speakers has, invariably, the happy effect of transforming easy-going, good-natured listeners into fiery Suffragists. Having, none too gently, hustled the offender to the outskirts of the crowd, they resume their attitude of attention to the speaker with a new interest and sympathy born of the knowledge that they have been surprised into championing the woman's cause. Whenever we have had a chance of putting our case clearly before men who are not blinded by party feeling, we have been able to rouse in them a new spirit of chivalry and new political ideals. We have made them realise that the lives and honour of their own daughters are more precious than the tweedledum and tweedledee which is all that the candidates have to offer for their choice.

Seldom before have we met with so quick and intelligent a response to our appeal. The by-election has been full of surprises. In some respects it has been a series of revelations—revelations of the extraordinary hold our movement has on the working people. It has grown and spread its roots so swiftly and so subtly that the strength and glory of it all comes upon us at times with something almost of a shock. We see it now and again—particularly at a by-election—this vision of a movement, powerful, strong, invincible, because deeply rooted in that most fruitful of all soils—public opinion. We see it in the sudden, chivalrous anger kindling in the eyes of some man who has been roused by the recital of the humiliations inflicted on the women who bore the heat and burden of the day in this militant agitation; we see it in the faces of the working women—faces shining with that pitiful gratitude which leaves us mourning.

These things are our inspiration. We know that into the lives of many women we have brought new hope and dignity. And we know that our work has had its effect upon the men. We have done much to destroy that stubborn, fatuous allegiance to selfish political ideals whereby they are so often rendered blind to the eternal truths that lie at the heart of our movement. M. MOP.

SOUTH MANCHESTER BY-ELECTION.

CANDIDATES.

Mr. P. K. Glazebrook (C).
Sir Arthur Haworth (L).

Retired in Dec., 1910—Sir A. A. Haworth, L., unop.

Polling Day, Tuesday, March 5.

W.S.P.U. Office: 32, King Street West.

Owing to the vacancy caused by Sir Arthur Haworth's appointment as Junior Liberal Whip, a by-election will take place at South Manchester. Members of the local W.S.P.U. are already hard at work, and they are being helped by Mrs. Baines and Miss Williams, organisers of Halifax and Huddersfield. Helpers of all kinds, especially as speakers, papersellers and bill distributors, will be most welcome, and members who have any time to spare are asked to do all they can.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MEETING TO-NIGHT.

Every Member is asked to try and be present at the Queen's Hall, to-night, Friday. See page 342.

Monday, March 4.

3.15 p.m.—London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus.

8 p.m.—Parliament Square.

Mrs. Pankhurst, leader of the demonstration, will be present at the afternoon meeting. Dr. Ethel Smyth, one of the demonstrators, will speak. Speeches will also be made by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.

London Opera House, Thursday, March 7.

After March 4—March 7. As already announced, the London Opera House, Kingsway, has been taken for a special meeting to be held on Thursday, March 7, at 8.15 p.m. This is the first time this vast building has been taken by the W.S.P.U. You will want everyone to understand the great militant protest on March 4, then make the most of the opportunity and tell everyone about the meeting. Admission is free, but reserved seats can be had from the Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., price 2s. 6d. and 1s. Boxes at 12s. 6d. (holding eight), 10s. 6d. (holding six), and 8s. (holding four). The speakers will include Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.

Don't Forget the Albert Hall Meeting, March 28.

Tell everyone about the great W.S.P.U. meeting in the Royal Albert Hall on March 28. You are always meeting new friends. Have you brought them into touch with the women's movement? If not, this is a splendid opportunity. Tickets, prices: Amphitheatre, 2s. 6d.; Arena, 1s.; Lower Orchestra, 2s.; Balcony, 1s. and 6d.; Upper Orchestra, 6d., all numbered and reserved. Boxes, £1 10s., £1 1s., and 12s. 6d. Application should be made to the Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Special Appeal to London Members.

Numbers of members are coming from all parts of the country for the protest on Monday next, March 4, and hospitality is urgently needed. A special appeal is therefore made to those London members who cannot take part in militancy to come forward and help in this way. All communications should be addressed to the Hospitality Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

The Woman's Press.

The leaflet entitled "Torture in an English Prison," which deals with the case of Mr. William Ball, can be had at the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road. Price 1s. per hundred, 9s. per 1,000, post free.

"Love and Honour—but Not Obedience." The new pamphlet by Mrs. Dugdale Duval is also on sale. Price 1d.

THE PROTEST OF A HORNSEY TEACHER.

There has been evidence of some desire to know why the suffragette teacher in Hornsey has come into conflict with the authorities, and we are glad to be able to publish the following, from Miss Frances Creation herself.

All classes of women suffragists are agitating to benefit the conditions of women in all spheres of life. Five or six years ago I first heard of Mrs. Pankhurst and her Union, and learning that she was working for women and for me amongst others, I at once recognised the necessity of working for myself and others too. Thus, like many other women similarly circumstanced, I took my part in all forms of safe agitation, but felt that for me it was impossible to do anything that would bring me into conflict with the authorities, since I had to consider my livelihood. This seemed sufficient reason to me for a time. However, coming into contact at the street corner with the actual product of the schools, party-ridden voters, small-minded, illogical, and often rough, I realised that I was engaged all day in turning out further specimens of the type against whom I contended in argument in the evening. The situation contained an element of absurdity.

A careful consideration of the system of education in the light of reason instead of tradition led to the discovery that in all probability more harm than good was being done to the children as things are. It is a pretence that children are educated—they are drilled and trained in certain stereotyped lines, controlled either actually or by implication by physical force. The methods of wholesale instruction, turning out results all to one pattern, became hateful to me as I saw their pernicious effects. I could only continue conscientiously to do my work since the beginning of the winter session in September by making determined efforts in every possible direction to effect improvement. It seemed it would be no good to the children or the State merely to resign my appointment and take up some other work—things would be no better in the system for that, and certainly I should get no satisfaction out of it, for I love teaching more than anything else.

I felt that as a citizen (to be) and a teacher my duty was to do all in my power to benefit the children of the State by taking a vital interest in education, not bounded merely by what was already systematised, but when necessary calling for an overhauling of the system. It shows the effects of being established and maintained by a male electorate—its methods and aims are militaristic—I claim that it would be improved by a large dose of women's influence. In November came the proposal that all men should be enfranchised, implying that preferably women should not. This was the last straw. I felt it incumbent upon me to protest in person.

On the evening of November 22 I considered definitely what form my protest should take; it finally took the form of broken glass. Proceedings at Bow Street were lengthened out, so that it was Monday before I reached my school again. However, I kept the authorities informed daily of my whereabouts and what prevented my attendance at school, as well as acquainting them fully with the

motives that led me to adopt this protest. I was suspended from duty until the committee had deliberated upon my case. On December 5 I submitted a statement to the sub-committee and was interviewed by them, a committee of over a dozen men and one woman. Declaring themselves unable to find fault with my ten years' record of school work, they proposed inflicting various penalties for my breach of contract instead of requiring my resignation. A week later, to the full Committee for Education, I presented a statement protesting against the decision of the sub-committee as too severe, since it amounted to a fine of about £20, amongst other things, for it appeared I was to be suspended from duty till the end of the year without salary. I pointed out that this stoppage of salary was probably illegal. However, my letter was not read to the committee, who adopted the course proposed by the sub-committee. Following this, steps were taken by the Solicitor of the Union of Teachers to obtain the salary illegally withheld, since I would not submit to be terrorised through fear of retaliation on the part of the committee from demanding it. At the first request the money was granted. Their retaliation took the form of notice of dismissal. It is very necessary that teachers, and especially women who desire improved conditions, should quite definitely show their determination to get them. Children are the hope of the world, and their education the most vitally important matter in the State!

FRANCES V. CREATION.

A SUFFRAGE STORY.

In "Under his Boot" (Women Writers' League, 6d.) Miss Elizabeth Robins has used her fine powers to tell in a very touching and beautiful story of the spiritual peace and safety that comes of immersion in a great cause—the glory that awaits the soldier in the woman's war, the spiritual death of those who hang back.

Her story, too, brings out in its striking plot the physical strength that can be gained by holding to a great ideal, and the physical danger that may pursue the one who seeks safety in inaction.

TWO PAMPHLETS.

Pamphlets form a very useful and easily distributed means of propaganda, and it would be hard to find two more indicative of modern thought than those which have reached us this week. "Love and Honour—but not Obedience." By Mrs. Dugdale-Duval (George Villiers Press, 1d.). "Woman Suffrage in New Zealand." By Lady Stout. (The Woman's Press, 1d.) Both can be obtained from the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Mrs. Duval, whose protest against the degrading submission of one human being to another has again raised the question of the alteration of the Marriage Service, has traced in this pamphlet the origin of the word "Obey" in this connection, and the reasons why it should be impossible for any self-respecting wife to say it or husband to demand it.

The real result of Woman Suffrage in New Zealand is valuable information for any Suffragist who may have garbled and untrue statements to answer. Lady Stout, the wife of the Chief Justice of New Zealand, can speak with authority, and in this pamphlet she gives, first, a clear list of the reforms that have been accomplished, and secondly, a number of answers, founded on fact, to Anti-Suffragist arguments about Woman Suffrage in New Zealand.

A "HISTORY."

"The Story of the Women's Suffrage Movement" (by Bertha Mason: Manchester: Sherratt & Hughes; 1s. net) contains a most interesting and valuable history of the constitutional history of Woman Suffrage from the first growth of the movement to the present day. Perhaps the most valuable pages are those giving a summary of Parliamentary events from the Reform Bill of 1832 to the promise of facilities for the Conciliation Bill in 1912. Such a complete list has not, we believe, been published for many years, and both speakers and writers will find it of the greatest use as a refutation of the time-honoured argument that Woman Suffrage has never been before the country.

THE REFERENDUM.

"The Referendum among the English," by Samuel Robertson Honey (Macmillan; 2s. 6d. net), is an interesting little book dealing with the workings of the Referendum in the United States of America; the Referendum was adopted by our American cousins early in their Constitutional life, and derived from the principle of English government which the Pilgrim Fathers took with them when they set out to create constitutional laws of their own.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"A Living Wage." By C. C. Cotterill. London: A. C. Fifield. Price, 6d. net.
 "The English Agricultural Labourer." By the Rev. A. H. Beverstock. London: A. C. Fifield. Price, 6d. net.
 "Women's Suffrage." By M. G. Fawcett, LL.D. London and Edinburgh: T. G. and E. O. Jack. Price, 6d. net.
 "After Thoughts." By G. W. E. Russell. London: Grant Richards, Ltd. Price, 7s. 6d. net.
 "The Englishwoman." March. London: Sidgwick and Jackson. Price, 1s. net.
 "The Criminal and the Community." By James Devon. London: John Lane. Price, 6s. net.

IN MEMORIAM.

The sympathy of all our readers will go out to Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins in the great loss they have sustained in the death of their youngest son, who was in his seventeenth year. It will be remembered that Mr. Hawkins had his leg broken at Mr. Churchill's meeting at Bradford on November 26, 1910, and his wife was one of the earliest members of the W.S.P.U., and has been many times imprisoned for the cause. Their son also took a deep interest in the emancipation of women.

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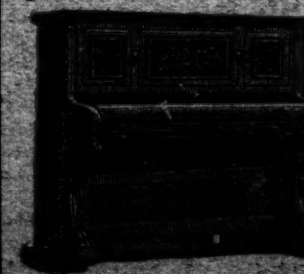
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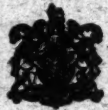
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VOTES FOR WOMEN

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FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1912.

THE NEED FOR ACTION.

The time of our great militant protest draws near. It is
a protest against the Government's refusal to grant votes
to women and against the trickery and evasion by
which they strive to conceal the true nature of their
hostile designs. For the last time before the protest is
made, let us review the position.

The Government, while gratuitously offering to men
the certainty of extended enfranchisement, offer to
women, as the price of their submission and renunciation
of militancy, a sham opportunity of enfranchisement.
We are to be allowed, that is to say, to try and get an
unofficial amendment for Woman Suffrage added to the
Reform Bill. The Government calculate that this
amendment will be defeated, and in order to make
assurance doubly sure, individual Ministers are doing
their share towards disintegrating the Suffragist forces
in the House of Commons by each one of them advocat-
ing a proposal which differs from the proposals
advocated by his various colleagues.

But some fear evidently remains in their minds that
a Woman Suffrage amendment might, in spite of their
best endeavours, secure a majority. Therefore the way
is being paved to the abandonment of the Reform Bill,
and the consequent disappearance of the women's so-
called opportunity. It is true that Mr. Lloyd George
vehemently asserted at the Albert Hall that the Reform
Bill would be proceeded with, but his words are out-
weighed by the following very significant facts. No date
has been fixed for the introduction of the Reform
Bill, whereas it is already arranged that the Home
Rule Bill shall be introduced on March 18; and
March 25 is being spoken of as the date of the
introduction of the Welsh Disestablishment Bill. The
Government, acting through the Liberal Whips, have
arranged with a private Member of Parliament to intro-
duce a Plural Voting Bill. This Plural Voting Bill has,
we are told, been drafted by a member of the Govern-
ment, the Solicitor-General. Already it is rumoured
that the Government intend to adopt this Bill. The
London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*
writes: "Many Members believe that the Government
may adopt it as an official Bill. Such a course would have
the merit of clearing the road for the coming Reform
Bill, by getting the simplest part of it out of the way
early in the Session." All this means that the Govern-
ment, having secured the abolition of Plural Voting, the
only change in the Electoral law for which they care
anything at all, will not hesitate to abandon the larger
measure of Electoral Reform which they have promised.

Assuming that the Reform Bill really sees the light
of day, and is seriously proceeded with, the Govern-
ment as a whole and its individual members, are, as
we have shown, resolved that women's enfranchisement
shall not form a part of it. Apart from the fact that
Government pressure is required for the passage of any
great Constitutional change, Ministers, by their plan of
sowing dissension amongst the rank and file of the
House of Commons, are making it even more impossible
than it otherwise would be to secure a majority for an
unofficial Woman Suffrage amendment. Up to the
present date there is in the Cabinet, where Woman
Suffrage is concerned, the Asquith faction, the Birrell

faction, the Lloyd George faction, and the Churchill
faction. Others may yet declare themselves.

All this is surely serious enough, but overhanging us
like a black cloud is the possibility of the Referendum,
that "costly method of denying justice," that "fair
pretence to strike a fatal blow." When the Govern-
ment's "offer" was first made, the Women's Social and
Political Union at once knew it to be worthless, but
not even we imagined that the Government had in
reserve the Referendum, which they themselves admit
to be so deadly a weapon. But in dealing with the
Government, it is always wise to assume that any con-
fidence we may put in them and their intentions will
be betrayed, and that unsatisfactory as their offers may
appear on the surface they are in reality more worthless
than they seem. So it has proved in the present
instance, and it has now become evident that the
Government are planning to make treacherous use of
the Referendum.

The first warning came in the Christmas holidays,
when the *Westminster Gazette* and the *Daily Chronicle*
vigorously advocated the use of the Referendum
at the expense of Woman Suffrage. At the first
opportunity Sir Edward Grey, a professing friend of
Woman Suffrage, was questioned on the point and made
the amazing reply that responsibility in the matter of
the Referendum rested not upon the Government but
upon the House of Commons. At first we hoped that
Sir Edward Grey was speaking without consideration
and was committing a mere indiscretion which would
subsequently be remedied. But since then he and Mr.
Lloyd George have given us further cause to believe
that on this question of the Referendum, they are pre-
pared to sell us to the Anti-Suffragist enemy in the
Cabinet.

At the Albert Hall, last Friday, a determined
attempt was made to get a straight answer on this
subject from Mr. Lloyd George. He refused to give it,
and referred us to the Prime Minister. At once the
Women's Social and Political Union asked the Prime
Minister to receive a deputation, and to make a state-
ment as to whether the Government would unite in
resisting any attempt on the part of the House of
Commons or the House of Lords to submit Woman
Suffrage to a Referendum. The Prime Minister gave
an insolent refusal to receive the deputation which
sought an interview with him in accordance with the
advice of his colleague, Mr. Lloyd George. Worse
than that, he declined to make any statement whatever
on the vital question at issue. There is only one con-
clusion to be drawn from this. It is that Mr. Asquith
has something to conceal, and that the Government, in
spite of all the fair words spoken by some of its
members for the purpose of deceiving us, are
united in the determination once more to cheat us
of the vote.

What under these grave circumstances can we do to
defeat our enemy and to win our enfranchisement?
The miners have shown us the way. By announcing a
strike which would bring loss and suffering to the
entire community, they have drawn forcible attention
to their grievance. The public, whose own interests
are at stake, have insisted that something be done to
prevent the national calamity involved by a coal strike.
The Government are thus compelled to take measures
to bring the strike to an end. As we go to press
the situation is that described in the following extract
from the *Daily News*—

"The Press this morning has swung round heavily to the
side of the men, and the principle of the minimum wage seems
to be generally accepted. The Government is aware that on no
other terms can a strike be avoided. If the coalowners still
resist, a Minimum Wage Bill has only to be introduced and
passed by special resolutions through the House of Commons.
The Peers would accept the measure as a matter of course.
The coalowners are, therefore, faced by a choice between
coming to terms before legislation or being brought to terms
after legislation. In either event, the minimum wage is
inevitable."

The fact is that the public will not endure that its
interests shall suffer in consequence of what is deemed
to be the obstinacy of a small section. Consequently,
if all else fails, Government are obliged to carry an
Act of Parliament in order to secure peace. It is obvious,
therefore, that for those who are fighting for reform, to
have the public directly concerned to secure the
end of a conflict is a very substantial advantage.
It is an advantage which the Suffragettes in the
earlier days of the militant movement did not possess.
Because the Government, and the Government alone
were inconvenienced by the militant campaign, the
country watched the struggle with too much equanimity.
In the later stages of the militant campaign some
members of the public have found that they do
not altogether escape the uncomfortable consequences
of the warfare between women and the Government.
When this happens on a sufficiently extended scale, and
the public at large feel that they are directly concerned
to secure the capitulation of the Government and the
concession of women's claim to the vote, then
victory will be ours. We also shall secure an Act of
Parliament for the abolition of our grievances.

The position has got to be carried by storm. The
militant women must create a crisis—a difficulty from
which all concerned are eager to escape. Then, and
then only, will women become politically free.

Christabel Pankhurst.

TO PARLIAMENT SQUARE!

Great Demonstration to take place on Monday, March 4, at 8 p.m.

They who preach patience to the peoples as the sole remedy for the ills by which they are oppressed, or who, while they admit the necessity of a contest, would yet leave the initiative to be taken by their rulers, do not, to my thinking, understand the state of things coming upon us. They mistake the character of the epoch, unconsciously betray the cause they seek to serve, and forget that the mission assigned to the nineteenth century is profoundly organic; a work of initiation and renovation only to be fulfilled in spontaneity, frankness, courage, and conscience.—*Massini*.

How true a ring there is in these words of the great Italian prophet! How closely they apply to the position of women to-day! Undoubtedly patience is a great virtue, but there are times in the history of men and women when patience may be carried to excess. To sit supine when wrongs are being inflicted upon others, to prefer a quiet and a peaceful life, to idolise "good form," when great human interests are at stake, is to prostitute the virtue of patience and make it nothing more nor less than a cowardly vice.

The women of the Women's Social and Political Union have learnt, as Mrs. Pankhurst said at the London Pavilion last Monday, to take the "big view." They have seen that so long as women were content with talking about the wrongs that are done to their fellow women and to little children, politicians turned a deaf ear to their complaints. Action, and action alone, made them attentive. So far, in response to women's action, politicians have given words—promises which were "to be fulfilled in the spirit as well as in the letter." But there has been no fulfilment. Men of straw like Mr. Winston Churchill have simply cast their own promises to the winds and broken them in the spirit as well as in the letter. Others, more subtle, like Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George, have contrived by shuffling and reshuffling the cards to make their own promises of no avail.

The latest example of the trickery of the Cabinet is provided by the question of the Referendum. In vain have the W.S.P.U. sought from Sir Edward Grey, from Mr. Lloyd George, and finally, Mr. Asquith himself, a plain answer to the plain question as to what are the intentions of the Cabinet with regard to the Referendum. They have been met by evasion and subterfuge. From this they have learnt that even if Woman Suffrage were to go through all its stages in the Commons, the Government would not resist the insertion by the Commons or by the Lords of a clause into the Bill making it inoperative unless and until it had been passed by Referendum.

A Naked Breach of Honour.

When this suggestion was first mooted the *Liberal Daily News* described it as a "naked breach of honour." A naked breach of honour it certainly would be, but women have learnt that this would not necessarily deter Cabinet Ministers from taking this course. If it would, why has not Mr. Asquith made a definite declaration? His failure to do so proves his willingness to trifle with the idea.

The Women's Social and Political Union will act on Monday next, when a great demonstration will come together in Parliament Square and speeches will be delivered protesting against the whole attitude of the Government on Woman Suffrage, demanding the withdrawal of the Manhood Suffrage Bill and the substitution of a measure giving equal franchise rights to men and women.

To this demonstration will come women from every part of London, from every part of England, from Wales, from Scotland and from Ireland to join together in one common protest.

A great campaign has already been inaugurated in London so that the people of the Metropolis may know what is taking place.

From Westminster Mrs. Ayrton Gould reports that the greatest enthusiasm is being shown. At all the meetings which are held at the dinner hour and in the evening the interest and support evinced surpasses anything which she has known before. Most of the women have their livelihood to gain and know that they cannot risk this by taking part in the protest themselves, but their hearts are in the protest that others are making on their behalf.

Every day thousands of the special handbill are given out in this district alone.

In other parts of London a very vigorous campaign is being conducted up till the day of the Protest. Special meetings are being arranged on Thursday and Friday evenings, and continuously during the afternoon and evening of Saturday, at the famous pitches, including the Cobden Statue, Camden Town, the corner of Kentish Town Road and Rochester Road, Gray's Inn Road, the Marble Arch, Stratford Place, Kennington Triangle. On Sunday afternoon special meetings will be addressed in the great London parks, including Hyde Park, Regent's Park, Hampstead Heath, Battersea Park, Finsbury Park, Victoria Park, Peckham Rye, Clapham Common, and elsewhere.

Special importance is attached to the distribution of Mrs. Pankhurst's handbill, and volunteers for the work are particularly required.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MR. ASQUITH.

In consequence of Mr. Lloyd George's failure to declare the Government's attitude towards the proposal to submit Woman Suffrage to a Referendum, and his statement that only the Prime Minister could supply the answer to this question Mrs. Pankhurst addressed to Mr. Asquith the following letter:—

24th February, 1912.

To the Rt. Hon. H. H. Asquith.

Sir,—When we waited upon you at Downing Street on November 17, you made to us, on behalf of the Government, certain undertakings concerning the question of Woman Suffrage. These undertakings we regarded, and still regard, as falling very far short of what we have a right to demand, because they do not provide that a proposal for Woman Suffrage shall be initiated by the Government.

Since the interview took place, the suggestion has been made that there shall be added to the Woman Suffrage proposal a clause providing that, it shall not come into effect until after it has been submitted to a Referendum. At first we took it for granted that the Government, as a Government, would resist any attempt by the House of Commons or by the House of Lords to add a Referendum clause to the Woman Suffrage proposals, in the same way that they would resist the addition of a Referendum clause to the Home Rule Bill. This conclusion we arrived at because we had noticed your very strong condemnation of the Referendum as a Constitutional device, and also because your statements, both to the anti-Suffragist deputation, and to our own deputation, gave not the smallest hint that the Government would countenance the adoption of the Referendum where Woman Suffrage was concerned. A statement which you made in the House of Commons last Session further confirmed us in this impression.

But lately the statements of two of your colleagues, Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey, have caused serious alarm, because they have suggested that the Government will not offer to the Referendum proposal that united and determined resistance which we have a right to expect. Mr. Lloyd George has informed us that you, and you alone, are able to give an authoritative statement on this point. I therefore propose to wait upon you, at the House of Commons, or at any other place which you appoint, at half-past five next Monday afternoon, February 26, in company with some of my colleagues, for the purpose of eliciting a definite statement from you upon this most important matter.

I am, Yours faithfully,

E. PANKHURST.

Mr. Asquith's Reply.

To this letter the following reply was received:—
10, Downing Street, Whitehall, S.W.
24th February, 1912.

Madam,—The Prime Minister desires me to thank you for your letter of to-day, and to say that he regrets that his engagements render it impossible that he should receive you and your colleagues on Monday afternoon as you suggest; nor indeed does he think that any good object would be served by such an interview, as he has nothing to add to the statements which he made to deputations on the subject of Woman Suffrage on November 18th and December 15th of last year.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) M. BONHAM CARTER.

Mrs. Pankhurst.

Mrs. Pankhurst replied, reiterating her request for an interview, and adding:—

"My society is strongly of opinion that there is imperative and urgent need of a statement from you on this question. On Friday night, at the Albert Hall, Mr. Lloyd George said, in answer to a question as to the Government's attitude towards the Referendum, 'There is only one Minister who is entitled to voice the opinions of the Government, and that is the Prime Minister.' He then went on to say that the question of the Referendum was not raised at the time of the suffragist deputation on November 17, 'because at that time there was no suggestion, so far as I can recollect, by any prominent person that the Referendum should be applied to Woman Suffrage.'"

The following is the Prime Minister's reply:—
10, Downing Street, Whitehall, S.W.
26th Feb., 1912.

Madam,—The Prime Minister desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day's date, and to say that he regrets that he is unable to reconsider the decision which has already been communicated to you in my letter of February 24th.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

M. BONHAM CARTER.

Mrs. Pankhurst.

MEN AND WOMEN I INVITE YOU TO COME TO

PARLIAMENT SQUARE

ON

MONDAY, March 4, 1912,

at 8 o'clock,

TO TAKE PART IN A

GREAT PROTEST MEETING

against the Government's refusal to
include woman in their Reform Bill.

Speeches will be delivered by well-known Suffragettes, who want to enlist your sympathy and help in the great battle they are fighting for human liberty.

(Signed) E. PANKHURST.

The above handbill, which has already been distributed to the number of many thousands in all parts of London, can be obtained from Miss Kerr, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

MRS. PANKHURST'S SPEECH.

In the House of Commons on Thursday, Sir William Byles asked: Whether the Home Secretary's attention has been drawn to a speech made by Mrs. Pankhurst at the Connaught Rooms, Kingsway, last Friday night, openly and emphatically inciting her hearers to violent outrage and the destruction of property, and threatening the use of firearms if stones did not prove sufficiently effective; and what steps he proposes to take to protect society against this outbreak of lawlessness?

Mr. McKenna: My attention has been called to the inflammatory speech to which my hon. friend refers. It would not be desirable in the public interest to say more than this at present.

Mr. Ferens: Will the right hon. gentleman consider whether the fact of these speeches is not due to the example of some Privy Councillors?

Sir W. Byles: In considering what steps to take, will the right hon. gentleman have regard to the fact that, at the cost of £2,700, protection was furnished in the city of Belfast against similar incitement by the hon. and gallant gentleman the Member for East Down and to the hon. and learned gentleman the Member for Trinity College?

Mr. Speaker: If I had thought this question simply raised the case of Belfast, it would not have appeared on the paper. I thought it was a genuine question.

Mr. Lansbury: Has the right hon. gentleman's attention been called to the statement made by the right hon. colleague the Chancellor of the Duchy, and may I ask whether he considers that the statement would incite people to take violent measures, the statement being that they had not had in the case of the Suffragettes demands the kind of sentimental and popular uprising which accounted for Nottingham Castle in 1832 and for the Hyde Park railings in 1867? Is that statement not an incitement to women to go and do likewise?

Mr. McKenna: My right hon. friend asks me to criticise the speech of my colleague, but I am bound to say, the question being put to me, that I do not see the slightest resemblance between the two.

PAPER-SELLERS WANTED!

The presence of great crowds in Parliament Square on Monday will provide a fine opportunity for making a large sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN. Those who have come to Westminster to show their sympathy with the Suffragettes will be glad to buy a paper from which they will get a fuller knowledge of the movement. Sellers can obtain a supply of the paper at the London Pavilion on Monday afternoon, or at the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C., at any time up to 8 o'clock on Monday evening. It will best serve the general convenience if paper-sellers will buy their supplies outright. If all London members who are not actually taking part in the protest will furnish themselves with a dozen or more copies to sell, a great educational work will be done. We also remind our readers that the whole of the current week is very valuable for paper-selling, and paper-sellers are urgently wanted.

MEETINGS IN WESTMINSTER.

Fri., Mar. 1.—Pimlico Pier, Mrs. Cather, Mrs. Bartlett, 12.15.
Tachbrook Street and Warwick Street, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Marshall, 7.30 p.m.
Millbank Estate (corner of Earl Street), Miss Gwen Richards, Mrs. Bartlett, 7.30 p.m.
Regency Place, Miss Rogers, Miss Vera Wentworth, 7.30 p.m.
Sat., Mar. 2.—Tachbrook Street and Warwick Street, Miss Gwen Richards, Miss Ada Wright, 7.30 p.m.
Millbank Estate (corner of Earl Street), Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Bartlett, 7.30 p.m.
Pimlico Pier, Miss Cather, Mrs. Marshall, 7.30 p.m.

THE LONDON OPERA HOUSE.

Attention is directed to the great meeting to be held by the W.S.P.U. on Thursday evening in the London Opera House. For particulars see page 338.

A CHINESE JOAN OF ARC.

According to the *Cri de Paris*, a young Chinese girl, known among her countrymen as the Chinese Joan of Arc, recently left London to place herself at the head of the feminist movement in the Chinese Republic. The girl, who is only twenty-two years of age, took part in the revolutionary movement at the age of fifteen. A girl companion who shared her views was beheaded.

A SONG OF JOYS.

O to struggle against great odds, to meet
enemies undaunted!
To be entirely alone with them, to find how
much one can stand!
To look strife, torture, prison, popular odium,
face to face!
To mount the scaffold, to advance to the
muzzles of guns with perfect nonchalance!
To be indeed a God!

—WALT WHITMAN'S "Leaves of Grass."

If, however, Lord Loreburn declines to become Lord Chamberlain, it is probable that no changes will take place until the Government goes out on Woman Suffrage. This will probably occur in the first week of July, and next week I expect to be in a position to give a list of the Unionist Ministry.—*Truth*, February 14.

COMMONS DEBATE ON THE CASE OF MR. BALL.

Great Meeting of Protest to be held To-night in the Queen's Hall by the M.P.U.

The scandal regarding the treatment of Mr. William Ball has been brought home to Mr. McKenna during the week by members of the House of Commons. On Wednesday and Thursday and again on Monday searching questions have been addressed to him as to the facts, and these were followed up on Monday and Tuesday night by a debate on the subject, which took the form of speeches made on the motion to adjourn the House. Mr. Lansbury commenced by making a very full statement setting out in cogent style the facts of the case. This was followed by a speech from Lord Hugh Cecil, who was able to show how inhumanly the case had been treated; after a few remarks from Mr. McKenna the debate was brought to a close. Dr. Lynch raised the question again on the following night and disposed of the attempt to prove that Mr. Ball was naturally disposed to mental instability. Mr. McKenna then made his reply defending his own action and that of the prison officials, and promising to have an impartial medical enquiry into the facts.

MR. LANSBURY'S SPEECH.

Mr. Lansbury commenced by narrating the facts of Mr. Ball's case—his arrest and sentence of two months' hard labour for breaking two windows in the Home Office his refusal to accept the prison conditions, and the forcible feeding for five and a-half weeks. He called attention to the refusal of the prison authorities to allow his wife to send in a medical man. He proceeded to say that in answer to questions the Home Secretary apparently took the stand that Mr. Ball had to be forcibly fed, that he had to be kept in the division for hard labour, and that the new rules did not apply to cases where hard labour was attached to the sentence. Mr. Lansbury then explained that Mr. Ball, having applied to the prison authorities for special treatment, on failing to receive it, sat down to write a petition. He had already seen the Governor, after sitting down to write the petition, he gave up the task. His appeal to the prison authorities was refused.

Mr. Lansbury said that he had read the rules in regard to prisoners. He was neither a lawyer nor an expert, but he understood that there was no division lower than the third division under prison rules. He had read Section 243a, and could not find there anything which said that the prisoner sentenced to hard labour should not come within this category. He saw quite clearly that a man whose previous character was good, and who had been convicted and committed to prison for an offence not involving dishonesty, cruelty, indecency, or other serious offence, might be allowed by the prison commissioners such amelioration of conditions as might be prescribed under the rule. He wanted the House to understand that Mr. Ball, after five and a-half weeks' forcible feeding, became mentally ill.

Breach of a Prison Rule.

The prison rule was that whenever a prisoner was in a dangerous condition of health his friends should be communicated with. Mr. Ball's friends were never communicated with, beyond the information conveyed to the wife that he was in a good condition of health. He was allowed to get worse, until at last he was declared by the prison doctors to be insane, and without communication to a single friend he was bundled off to a lunatic asylum. "I do not think," said Mr. Lansbury, "that anything more disgraceful than that has happened in our prison annals. Surely his friends ought to have been allowed to bring in an independent man to try and find out the cause of insanity."

Mr. Lansbury proceeded to say that he had read over the answer given by the right hon. gentleman last week, and he thought the House smiled when the doctor's report was read out to the effect that the man had allowed his mind to dwell too much on Votes for Women. He (Mr. Lansbury) thought that was a very trumpery manner of dealing with a very serious matter like this. Everyone in the House knew that it was no laughing matter if anyone adopted a strong attitude of mind on a political question, "and I do not think," he added, "that if we were used in prison in the fashion that this man was it ought to be laid to our views rather than to our treatment."

He charged the prison authorities with deliberately and of set purpose not calling in any independent medical man to examine Mr. Ball. In the case of a patient outside a prison it was necessary to get a quite independent man to certify him before he could be removed, and all kinds of precautions were taken, but in this case it was said that Mr. Ball was never mentally sound. His friends were never approached. Anyone acquainted with the certifying of pauper lunatics knew that before a man or woman could be sent away the friends must be applied to, and there must be evidence as to his or her mental condition. In this case no one was applied to at all.

Letter from Mr. Ball's Father.

The doctors had the impudence to say that this man, who was thoroughly healthy, was not quite mentally right. Mr. Lansbury proceeded to read the following letter from Mr. Ball's father:

"Having seen the Home Secretary's reply concerning the state of William Ball's mind, I, his father, aged eighty-three years, and still conducting my own business, most emphatically deny any weakness of mind. In his younger days he was considered one of the best of swimmers, he was champion runner of the Midlands, and has never had medical treatment of any kind for the past twenty years. I have six sons and six daughters, all of whom are healthy and strong, the youngest being twenty-eight years of age. My mother had all her faculties at the age of ninety-three, and I certify that insanity has never been known in any of our family."

Yet, went on Mr. Lansbury, the prison doctors had the impudence to say that this man, with this record, had not quite his mental balance.

A Full Inquiry Demanded.

He felt that the House of Commons ought to consider the very humblest man or woman who was in prison. They had no one to speak for them. Of course, officials had to carry out their duties, and there were often prisoners who were very difficult to deal with, but at the same time absolute justice must be done to prisoners. This man had not had justice, but gross injustice done to him.

The object he had in raising the question was to ask the Home Secretary, definitely and distinctly, to give a pledge that as soon as Mr. Ball recovered his full capacity there should be a full and impartial inquiry into the whole circumstances of his treatment while in prison. He did not think the House ought to be satisfied with anything less than that. The facts ought to be thoroughly ventilated, and there ought to be a pledge that on no other occasion should a man, whatever his offence, be certified merely by the prison doctors without his friends being called in, and there ought also to be a pledge that these political prisoners, whatever the magistrate sentenced them to, should receive special treatment. When the nephew of a Minister assaulted one of that Minister's colleagues, he received special treatment in prison, and other men committing not such grave offences as that had been subjected to the same treatment as Mr. Ball. Mr. Ball's offence was a protest against that. If, said Mr. Lansbury, once it gets out that there is one law for the man who belongs to the Transport Federation, as this man did, and another for Lady Constance Lytton and Hugh Franklin, the nephew of a Minister of the Crown, the common people will want to know where justice has gone to in this country. Anyhow, I hope the Home Secretary will take steps to prevent anything of this kind happening again, and will grant us a full and impartial enquiry.

LORD HUGH CECIL.

Lord Hugh Cecil suggested to the Home Secretary that this was a very grave matter, and that it left on the face of it a very serious stain upon the reputation of prison officials, either for want of sympathy, or want of humanity, or both. This man had been sent to prison for an offence which in the view of the Government themselves and of the whole of the House was without moral turpitude. He was then subjected to treatment extending over five weeks, which, not suddenly or unexpectedly, but slowly and by degrees, drove him out of his mind. Sixteen days before he was released the prison doctors began to notice that something was wrong, but they apparently made no change in the treatment, but went on with forcible feeding just as before. When a man's mind was failing, which was the most serious failure of health that could happen to him, prison discipline should be relaxed immediately, and such steps should be taken as were necessary to save his reason. Evidently, it was an outrageous and a disproportionate penalty for any offence that had been laid to the charge of this man that he should be made insane, and his whole prospects blighted, because even if he recovered from insanity, it laid upon the man, necessarily and inevitably, a most terrible stigma which could never be effaced. No one would quite trust a man who had been insane in the way they would trust an ordinary person. Therefore, it was a most serious injury, and apparently altogether disproportionate.

Case of Mr. Stead Quoted.

The right hon. gentleman took a point of a very technical character, that the man was sentenced to hard labour, and therefore was by statute precluded from the particular relaxations which have been provided in similar cases. But the particular relaxation which was all important in this case had nothing whatever to do with whether a man was sent to hard labour or not. It was to let him have his food furnished from outside. There was no connection between the two ideas. Nor was the right hon. gentleman right in what he (Lord Hugh Cecil) thought was in his mind, that it was not open to him to interfere unless the prisoner asked him to. Mr. Stead was moved from an ordinary prison and treated as a first-class misdemeanant, almost immediately after his sentence, rather against his will, and certainly without any application from him. It would have been perfectly open to the Home Office and the proper authorities to interfere and move the prisoner from the hard labour class if they had chosen to do so.

Lord Hugh Cecil asked the House to consider what would be said if a political prisoner

in Russia had been sent to a prison by an autocratic Government and had in five weeks gone out of his mind. He urged that if confidence was to be restored in prison administration in this country an independent inquiry by independent medical men and capable persons of legal training was essential, unless a stigma of serious inhumanity was to rest upon our prison administration.

MR. MCKENNA.

Dr. Lynch rose to continue the discussion, but the Speaker called on Mr. McKenna.

Mr. McKenna referred to the very moderate speech of the member for Bow and Bromley, Mr. Lansbury. Although he could not admit the accuracy of all the facts, he certainly had no complaint at all as to the character of the case. The Noble Lord (Lord Hugh Cecil), however, appeared to have given no attention to the facts, but had taken up the case as a means of making some sort of an attack against the Government.

Some little discussion took place between Lord Hugh Cecil and Mr. McKenna as to "moral turpitude," and Mr. McKenna said it was not open to the Noble Lord to criticise the judgment of the magistrate in giving the prisoner a sentence with hard labour. The prisoner was convicted on December 23, and on coming into prison declined to take food. The Noble Lord said that for five weeks the prisoner was subjected to treatment which drove him out of his mind. What was that treatment? Artificial feeding. Did the Noble Lord suggest that he would not feed artificially a person who refused to take food?

Lord Hugh Cecil replied that he would certainly detain the prisoner without offering any food and without forcing him to eat until his health became affected by starvation, when he would release him.

Mr. McKenna said the moment when a prisoner's health was being injured by starvation was very difficult to determine. Artificial feeding had taken place without any injurious consequences for years, in one case for two and a-quarter years, and there was not the slightest evidence, after years of experience, that artificial feeding had any tendency to drive a person out of his mind. It was a very uncomfortable proceeding, and prison authorities used it with reluctance. Every prison authority and manager of a lunatic asylum was bound to take the alternative of artificial feeding; and the health of the prisoners in their charge was, he stated, maintained. In the case before them, forcible feeding was continued until January 29; on that date the prisoner said: "I think I have stuck it pretty well." He took his ordinary dinner in the ordinary way, and was fed thus from January 29 until he was discharged on February 12. It was not suggested that during that period when his mental condition was getting rapidly worse it could have been through the effect of artificial feeding. With regard to the technical point of hard labour, raised by Lord Hugh Cecil, Mr. McKenna quoted Section 6, Sub-section 1, of the Prisons' Act, 1898:—

Prisoners convicted of an offence, either on indictment or otherwise, and not sentenced to penal servitude or hard labour, shall be divided into three divisions.

It being eleven-thirty the House then adjourned.

TUESDAY NIGHT.

On the motion for adjournment on Tuesday, February 27, Mr. Lynch again raised the question of Mr. Ball's treatment in prison. The question of predisposition to insanity had, said Mr. Lynch, been first denied and then contended by the Home Secretary. There were three causes of predisposition—Hereditary, alcohol, and a specific disease rarely alluded to although very prevalent. All these might be entirely eliminated in the case of Mr. Ball, whose case was that of a man who entered prison in a perfectly normal state and was within two months driven mad. The case should not be allowed to drop till the whole matter had been entirely sifted, and until it was found what was radically wrong with the prison system. He appealed to the Home Secretary on the human side of this distressing case, and asked him to utter some word of sympathy, some hope of compensation, and an undertaking that the whole matter would be investigated.

Mr. McKenna.

Mr. McKenna in his reply said no one could be familiar with the facts without having full sympathy. The question was, however, whether the prison treatment had been inhuman. With the exception of perhaps the first two days, Mr. Ball had been in hospital the whole time he was in prison. Proceeding, Mr. McKenna dealt with Mr. Lansbury's argument with regard to hard labour, viz. that a prisoner sentenced to hard labour must be either in the first, second or third division, and that therefore the regulations made by the Home Secretary last year applied equally to prisoners sentenced to hard labour. It was clear, from the language of Section 6, Sub-section 1, that a prisoner sentenced to hard labour was not included in the category of first, second, or third, and therefore not eligible for treatment under the regulations. In reply to Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. McKenna said that if he were to make the regulations apply to prisoners sentenced to hard labour he would be overriding the intention of Parliament, and he had no right to do in that way. It was quite clear

from the Act that no Minister had power to avert under a general rule the conditions of hard labour. What the Home Secretary could do, in every case after conviction with sentence of hard labour, was to consider it on its merits. He could then remit the sentence of hard labour. In reply to a further question from Mr. Keir Hardie, who asked if prisoners sent to hard labour for offences which involved no moral turpitude were to have the benefit of the regulations, Mr. McKenna said he must not for a moment be understood to admit that in a case of sabotage, whatever the political motives might be. (Mr. Lynch: That is not sabotage), breaking windows, and violent destruction of property differed only in degree, and he was not prepared to admit that where a responsible person committed violent acts of destruction of property, that prisoner was not morally guilty. The pleading of political motive must not be assumed to eliminate moral guilt. Had application been made in the Ball case he would have considered it on its merits. He could not agree with the view of the noble lord opposite that where a prisoner refused food he should be discharged.

An Inquiry Granted.

Charges had been made that the treatment of Mr. Ball had not been governed by the ordinary rules. He, Mr. McKenna, upon all the evidence he had been able to examine, had perfect confidence in the action of the prison commissioners and the officers concerned in the case. So confident was he that he was more than willing to institute an inquiry. He was perfectly satisfied that the result of an independent inquiry by an independent medical man, who might be appointed not by the Home Office but, he suggested, by the Royal College of Physicians, would show that there was no ground for the fears and suspicions and alarms suggested with regard to Mr. Ball's case. He was quite convinced that the result of such inquiry would prove that there was not the slightest foundation upon which a charge of inhuman conduct could be brought against the prison officials.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

Prior to this debate questions had been addressed to Mr. McKenna by Mr. Walter McLaren, Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lansbury and Lord Hugh Cecil. Mr. McKenna had in reply offered no explanation of the delay of the Governor in not informing Mr. Ball of her husband's condition between Jan. 26 and Feb. 10. As to the cause of Mr. Ball's mental condition Mr. McKenna denied that it was in any way due to forcible feeding and suggested first that "his conduct before getting into prison was somewhat strange," and subsequently that it might be due to his dwelling too much in prison on Votes for Women and political prisoners. A great number of questions turned on the precise meaning of the special prison regulations relating to prisoners not guilty of moral turpitude and their application to prisoners sentenced to hard labour; all these points were brought out in the debate.

PROTEST MEETING TO-NIGHT.

An important meeting is taking place to-night (Friday), in the large Queen's Hall, at 8 p.m., organised by the Men's Political Union, to protest against the inhuman treatment of Mr. Ball. Mr. Nevinson is taking the chair, and the speakers will include Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., who has fought the matter so well on the floor of the House of Commons, Mr. Charles Mansell Moulin, F.R.C.S., Vice-President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Mr. Victor Duval. Mrs. Ball and Mr. McDougall will also be on the platform.

Admission is free, but there are reserved seats at 2s. 6d. and 1s., which can be obtained from the M.P.U., at 13, Buckingham Street, or from the W.S.P.U., at Clements Inn.

PRESS OPINIONS.

The explanation given by the Home Secretary to the House in the case of William Ball is extremely unsatisfactory. Asked why the rule made by his predecessor allowing for "amelioration of the conditions" in the case of offenders committed for charges not involving "dishonesty, cruelty, indecency, or serious violence," was not applied in this instance, Mr. McKenna gave as a reason that it was inapplicable to persons sentenced to hard labour. But a reference to the actual rule shows that no such distinction is drawn. Though this "amelioration" was left to the discretion of the Prison Commissioners, the terms of the rule make it quite clear that it was designed as a general instruction. In all cases of female suffragists convicted of a similar offence to that of William Ball, the "amelioration" has been applied. No reason has been given for this discrimination against a male offender. Mr. McKenna made the matter worse by asserting that it was "impossible to attribute the insanity" which caused the removal of the prisoner to Colney Hatch to the forcible feeding which took place during five weeks of his incarceration. Other features in this case reflect grave discredit upon the prison authorities, or the Home Office, or both.—*The Nation*.

If such things as have been done in this case are to be allowed, then to some man is free from the danger of being committed to a lunatic asylum on the whim of some subordinate Government official. The Home Secretary has been repeatedly questioned in Parliament, and his answers have been most unsatisfactory.—*Christian Commonwealth*.

AT THE LONDON PAVILION.

There was a subdued air of excitement last Monday afternoon in the London Pavilion. It had been announced in the morning papers that in consequence of Mr. Lloyd George's unsatisfactory statement on the Referendum the previous Friday in the Albert Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst, and some of her colleagues, would wait on the Prime Minister at Westminster that afternoon at 5.30. Suffragettes knew what that portended, and long before the meeting commenced the Pavilion was full. Rumours were flying about everywhere. Some said that Mrs. Pankhurst had been arrested on her way to the hall; others that a warrant had been issued; others, again, that the Prime Minister had consented to receive her, and when at last Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence came on to the platform, they were greeted with a regular "W.S.P.U. welcome."

Mrs. Pankhurst, who was in the chair, began by saying that a very grave political situation had arisen during the last few days. She reminded her hearers of the deputation of Women's Suffrage Societies which the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer received in Downing Street last November, and pointed out that during that deputation no mention had been made of the Referendum. "It was only," she said, "in the Christmas holidays that that proposal was first heard of, and since then that it has gained ground." She alluded to the answers recently given by Sir Edward Grey when questioned upon this subject, and also the statement made by Mr. Lloyd George the previous Friday. She had accordingly written to Mr. Asquith asking for an interview, in order that the point might be cleared up. Following his usual custom, Mr. Asquith had curtly refused this application, and when she reiterated her request, he replied that he had nothing further to add to his previous statements on this subject, and he did not consider that any good cause would be served by receiving the deputation. The conclusion the Union were bound to draw from this was, therefore, that the Government refused to give the women of the country an assurance that the Referendum would not be used to trick them of their enfranchisement. They had intended to wait upon the Prime Minister that afternoon, but as several of their friends in the House of Commons had announced their intention of questioning the Prime Minister on the floor of the House, and of eliciting a definite statement from him, they would wait to hear what this statement was before taking any action upon this specific point. They would, however, continue their preparations for their militant demonstration on March 4, and if, Mrs. Pankhurst said, that demonstration were only large enough, within twenty-four hours of its being made members of the Government would be asking the Women's Social and Political Union to confer with them.

Miss Pankhurst, who was the next speaker, devoted her speech to criticisms of Mr. Lloyd George's meeting in the Albert Hall the previous week, and stated that although the Chancellor of the Exchequer had done the Union the honour of devoting the greater part of his speech to answering questions sent him by them, they were by no means satisfied with his answers. Mr. George declared himself incompetent to state the views of the Government on the Referendum, but, as Miss Pankhurst pointed out, Mr. Winston Churchill was considered competent to state the views of the Government regarding Home Rule at Belfast! She therefore considered that Mr. Lloyd George was at least equally competent to answer the question the women Suffragists put to him, and women Suffragists were entitled to insist upon his answering it.

After reading the letter from Mr. Winston Churchill in the morning papers, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence compared the latest statements of the First Lord of the Admiralty with his views on Woman Suffrage as stated at intervals during the last six years, and showed how curiously varied these statements were. After mentioning similar statements made by the right hon. gentleman's colleagues, Mrs. Lawrence warned her audience to be careful how they placed credence in declarations of good faith made by Cabinet Ministers, and concluded with a passionate appeal to the women present to join in the next militant demonstration and so end once and for all the struggle in which they were engaged.

AT CAXTON HALL.

The Caxton Hall, connected with so many memorable events in the history of the militant movement, was crowded on Thursday last, when Miss Christabel Pankhurst presided. Referring to Sir William Byles' question in the House of Commons that afternoon, with reference to Mrs. Pankhurst's speech at the public dinner on February 16, Miss Pankhurst denied that Mrs. Pankhurst had threatened the use of firearms. In fact, Mrs. Pankhurst had distinctly expressed the hope that recourse to such forcible arguments might never be necessary. What Suffragists had said, she added, was mildness itself in comparison with the words and actions of men when struggling for their rights, and she quoted in particular

Sir Edward Carson, Mr. F. B. Smith, and Mr. Hobhouse. The latter had said that "in the case of the Suffrage demand there had not been the kind of popular sentiment and uprising which accounted for Nottingham Castle in 1832, or the Hyde Park railings in 1867. There had been no great ebullition of popular feeling." Was that the sort of thing Mr. Hobhouse was waiting for, and was that the sign he wanted? On the question of militancy, Mr. Lloyd George had once said that "freedom did not descend like manna from Heaven." On another occasion he said that "in order to win the rights of liberty which this country now enjoys, the land was drenched with blood." And he did not seem to think it too high a price to pay for political liberty.

Mrs. Hopkins, speaking in place of Miss Stirling, who was unavoidably absent, spoke from personal experience of the conditions of women Post Office clerks. She spoke of a new class of women clerks which had been introduced at the instigation of Mr. Samuel, who were paid a low salary, worked eight hours a day and had fourteen days' holiday in a year. These women were put to do a large share of the work done by the existing women clerks, who were paid £65 to £110 a year, working seven hours a day, and having a month's holiday in a year. The whole position of women clerks in the Post Office was, she said, being undermined by this system of economy. They were told that the salary of women clerks would not be altered and that their status would not be affected by this new arrangement, but the tendency was towards a reduction of pay and an increase of work. Mr. Samuel stated in the House of Commons some time ago that the work given to this new class of clerk was easy, and said that in most Post Offices it would be done by boys; but the women knew that when boys had been tried at a lower class of work some years ago, they made hundreds of mistakes which were even to this day coming to light, and they knew also that if this work could be done by boys the Postmaster-General would not employ women. When a deputation of women clerks waited on Mr. Samuel in November last and asked that when the same work was done by women as by men in the same department they should be paid the same wages, he said at once that such a thing would create absolute chaos in the labour market. The experience of women Post Office clerks showed that where women's interests were concerned they were not looked after as they would be if they had the power of the vote behind them. What Mr. Samuel said would create chaos was found to work in the Colonies and in Norway where women had the vote, and where they were paid at exactly the same rate as men for the same work.

Miss Tatlow, of the Irish Women's Franchise League, Dublin, then gave a description of the deputation to Mr. Birrell, an account of which was published in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN.

MISS GAWTHORPE'S PROTEST.

Miss Mary Gawthorpe, who, as we stated last week, made a protest against the treatment of Mr. William Ball, appeared before Sir Albert de Rutzen on Thursday, February 22, charged with breaking a window at the Home Office. She defended herself. Police evidence was given to the effect that a window was broken, and that Miss Gawthorpe went to a constable and said, "I have broken a window." A hammer was found, with some writing in ink tied round the handle. Mr. Muskett said this need not be read. The value of the window was £2 10s.

Miss Gawthorpe said that she took this action absolutely on her own responsibility. It was unofficial in every respect. She stood there, not because of Votes for Women, but because of what William Ball had suffered, and her action was a protest against his being forcibly fed in Pentonville Prison. "If we always waited until things touched us we should never get things right in this world, should we?" People in high places, in the position of the Home Secretary and others, should see that these people were not treated as criminals. It was bad for the country, and she hoped that Mr. McKenna and others could appreciate the motives which animated those who were working in a great cause like Votes for Women. She intended to challenge the authorities to forcibly feed her. This principle of forcible feeding in prison had got to be stopped once and for all.

Dr. Flora Murray was then called, and said she had been attending Miss Gawthorpe for the last thirteen months. In reply to the magistrate, Dr. Murray stated that Miss Gawthorpe had not yet wholly recovered. Mr. Muskett asked what treatment Dr. Murray would suggest. The magistrate said he believed Dr. Murray was of the opinion, from the time she had been treating the defendant (and she had been specially treated), that any different sort of diet might involve very serious consequences.

The magistrate said he should remand Miss Gawthorpe for a week on her own recognisances. That would enable inquiry to be made. Miss Gawthorpe refused bail, and was removed to Holloway. On the following day, in consequence of a report from Holloway, Miss Gawthorpe was sent for by Sir Albert de Rutzen and discharged.

MR. ZANGWILL'S NEW PLAY.

The first production of "The Next Religion," by Mr. Israel Zangwill, will be given by the New Players at two private matinees on Thursday and Friday, April 18 and 19, at the Pavilion Theatre, Piccadilly Circus. For particulars apply to the Hon. Sec., 19, Overland Mansions, Battersea Park S.W.

MRS. ACLAND'S VIEWS.

Last week we published a letter from Mrs. Acland and Miss Pankhurst's reply to it. Miss Pankhurst has since received the following—

Dear Madam,—I can't admit the reasoning that if there would be a split in the Liberal Party now, supposing Woman Suffrage were made a party measure, then there must be a split on the Third Reading of a Reform Bill amended so as to include women. The first policy would be provocative; Anti-Suffragists and doubtful Suffragists in the Liberal Party would regard it as a high-handed proceeding and would justly resent it. But many of them, like the Prime Minister himself, when once the will of the House of Commons as a whole has been demonstrated by an effective vote for Woman Suffrage on Committee Stage, will feel that that will must prevail, and will vote for the Third Reading rather than lose those parts of the Bill which they like and which the House as a whole has decided must be coupled with Woman Suffrage.

To my mind the key of the whole situation is held by the doubtful Suffragists: nothing should be done to provoke them, everything to conciliate them. The way is tortuous but it can be threaded by the exercise of political sagacity. We can, as I believe, secure for the Women's Amendment a majority composed of Members of all parties, and subsequently for the Third Reading a Coalition majority, if not the full normal majority of 118, yet one that will serve our turn.

With regard to the second point Miss Pankhurst makes, namely, the impossibility of securing a majority for an amendment, there is this to be said. Miss Pankhurst explains that in the words (in leading article of February 16) "a mere amendment," she referred specifically to a full womanhood amendment. Now it is not so important to know what the amendment is of which Miss Pankhurst is thinking as to know what the amendment is of which Mr. Lloyd George and Lord Lytton are thinking. And it is perfectly clear from his speech at the Albert Hall last Friday that the terms of that amendment are to be arrived at by common consent of Suffragist M.P.s of all parties, before the Committee stage of the Reform Bill comes on. It is also perfectly clear from Lord Lytton's speech on the same occasion that he (whom I suppose we may take to be voicing a large section of the Unionist Suffragists) fully believes that such a jointly acceptable amendment is discoverable. It may be—I hope it will be—on thoroughly democratic lines, including the enfranchisement of married women; or it may have to be no wider than the Conciliation Committee's old proposals. But at any rate, now that we have the leaders of the two great Suffragist wings (I may say of the three, for Mr. Arthur Henderson is in close sympathy, I believe) acting thus, for the first time, in close concert and with mutual good-will, we have a clearer prospect for Woman Suffrage than ever before, and anyone who interferes to break up so valuable an alliance is no wise friend of our cause.

With regard to one purely personal point, let me assure Miss Pankhurst that nothing is "democratic enough for Mrs. Acland" short of Manhood and Womanhood Suffrage, but that almost anything is democratic enough for her as a beginning. That is a lesson which I have learnt largely from the propaganda of the W.S.P.U. and it does seem a trifle odd that the very people who last year were rebuking Adult Suffragists and supporters of Married Women Suffrage for cavilling at the precise measure of the first instalment should now turn round and say they will oppose an amendment because, though it may be the largest, it is not democratic enough under the new circumstances.

Over and over again we have been told (and rightly as I now think): "It is the principle that matters." "We must be content to begin with the thin edge of the wedge." "We must get the sex disqualification removed somehow." I state frankly, and I believe the vast majority of democratic Suffragists would agree with me, that if nothing better than Manhood Suffrage plus Women Occupiers' Suffrage is procurable this session, I would support even that. And so, as he announced at the Albert Hall on Friday, would Mr. Lloyd George.—Yours sincerely,

ELEANOR ACLAND.

MISS PANKHURST'S REPLY.

Mrs. Acland again makes the assumption that Anti-Suffragists and doubtful Suffragists on the Ministerial side of the House will attach an overweening importance to what, according to her own presentation of the case, is a purely sentimental point; that is to say, she argues that while they would resent being expected to vote, under Governmental pressure, for the enfranchisement of women while the Reform Bill is in its earlier stages, they would have no objection to doing so during the final stages of the Bill. She argues that this change of front on their part will be produced by the fact that a majority of the House of Commons has, subsequently to the introduction of the Reform Bill, demonstrated its approval of Woman Suffrage. But as everyone knows already, a majority of the present House of Commons is pledged to Woman Suffrage, and has already voted in its favour by the large majority of 167, a majority larger than that by which the Government holds office. Even the anti-Suffragists do not deny that a majority of the House of Commons is in favour of Woman Suffrage. This being so, neither the Government nor any of their supporters have the smallest excuse for objecting to Woman Suffrage being made an integral part of the Reform Bill before its introduction, and before any further vote on Woman Suffrage in the House of Commons. Their reason for objecting to this is that they believe that the alternative procedure of introducing a Reform Bill for men only and leaving women to depend on the chances of an unofficial amendment is calculated to attain their object of preventing the enfranchisement of women.

2. By what precise methods Mrs. Acland proposes to conciliate doubtful Suffragist M.P.s she does not explain, but our opinion is that this is a task which is best left to the Government to perform. It is obviously the Government's duty to give a lead to the House of Commons, and to secure by the disciplinary measures at their disposal that unity in favour of a particular proposal which, as we have always contended, and as Mr. Lloyd George now admits, is essential to success.

3. I am asked whether, when I stated that "whereas the Coalition majority of 118 is available for carrying Woman Suffrage as a Government measure the majority for a mere amendment to the Reform Bill will be wanting," I refer to a

full Womanhood Suffrage amendment or to the "Norwegian" amendment favoured by Mr. Lloyd George. The Women's Social and Political Union, in view of the Government's proposal for Manhood Suffrage, naturally demand Womanhood Suffrage, but the statement I have made applies either to the "Norwegian" amendment or to an amendment for Womanhood Suffrage, since both propositions, involving the enfranchisement of millions, do not appeal to moderates.

We have two criticisms of the plan hinted at by Mr. Lloyd George at the Albert Hall. One is that, as a result of the suggested conference between Suffragist M.P.s, the proposal agreed upon will give a minimum rather than a maximum of enfranchisement to women. This minimum might have been valuable as a preliminary to an extension of the male franchise, but as an accompaniment of such an extension it will be grossly unfair. Our second objection is that no informal and unofficial arrangement between Members of Parliament is sufficiently permanent or binding. Some turn of events might occur which would cause the destruction of the arrangement, and in that case there would be no definite body, such as the Government, which could be held responsible. In view of the dissension sown by the various Cabinet Ministers, all of whom seem to have an opinion on Woman Suffrage distinct from that held by any one of their colleagues, it is most questionable whether any private Member's proposal for Woman Suffrage, however limited in scope, can now secure a majority. Even if a limited proposal should secure a majority, it would be most unsatisfactory, in view of the concurrent extension of the franchise to men.

Let me explain once more to Mrs. Acland the reasons why the Women's Social and Political Union were in the past prepared to accept a limited measure of Woman Suffrage. These were: (1) that men at that time also possessed a limited franchise; and (2) that such limited measure would have paved the way to the equality of women with men in any subsequent extension of the franchise. The present proposal of some so-called democrats in the House of Commons is that while giving Manhood Suffrage, and thus rendering it highly difficult subsequently to reopen the franchise question, they shall shut women electors within a restricted franchise greatly inferior and unequal to that possessed by men.

MRS. GRIEG'S PROTEST.

On Friday last Mrs. Annie Grieg, a member of the W.S.P.U., was charged with disorderly conduct in attempting to enter a motor-car belonging to Sir Thomas Mason, and in breaking a pane of glass on the occasion of Mr. Winston Churchill's visit to Glasgow on February 9. Evidence was given to show that Mrs. Grieg entered the car and then broke a window. Mrs. Grieg, who defended herself, explained that she thought Mr. Churchill was in the car, and she asked the witnesses whether it was not a fact that Mr. Churchill was afraid to enter the car. Mrs. Grieg from the witness box apologised to Sir Thomas Mason for the mistake she had made. She pointed out that Mr. Churchill as a member of the Cabinet was responsible to the women, and that as they could not get their demand recognised in any other way they had to make these militant protests. She did not wish to make them. She would rather remain at home, where it was said women ought to be, but she felt it was her duty to make the protest she did, and she hoped Mr. Churchill would take it to himself. Being questioned as to her attitude of defying the law, Mrs. Grieg said: "We are not in the same category as men. We don't help to make the laws. We don't want to go about breaking windows, and there would be no window-breaking if women had the vote." A sentence of seven days' imprisonment was passed upon her, with a further seven days if she did not bind herself in £10 to be of good behaviour for six months. Mrs. Grieg gave no such undertaking and left the dock.

MISS ANNIE KENNEY AND THE LLP.

Miss Annie Kenney addressed a meeting of the Leicester Labour Party on Friday, Feb. 23, in the Dover Street Baptist Schoolroom, Leicester. After dealing with the political situation, she explained the futility of relying on a private member's amendment to the Reform Bill, and impressed upon her audience the necessity of a Government measure in 1912 in order that the benefit of the Parliament Act may be secured. She pointed out the one way in which the Labour Party could be of great assistance to the Woman's Movement, viz., by supporting Mr. MacDonald's pledge in answer to a question put to him at the Albert Hall meeting, when he said that he would be prepared to vote the Government out of office unless the Government bowed to the will of the majority and introduced a franchise measure granting equal voting rights to men and women.

At the conclusion of the meeting one of the delegates, in moving a vote of thanks to Miss Kenney, emphasised the wisdom of the women's attitude towards the amendment. The Chairman, who is also local Chairman of Mr. MacDonald's Election Committee, stated that the Labour men had absolute faith in Mr. MacDonald. They realised, he said, that Mr. MacDonald's pledge was given in all sincerity and after much consideration, for he knew he would get the support of the Labour men if he came back to Leicester having been a party to voting the Government out of office on this question. Meanwhile they promised to do all that lay in their power to help to get the question settled this year. Miss Kenney was heartily assured of a welcome whenever she should return to Leicester.

Two performances of Indian plays (including tableaux from Omar Khayyam) are being given, on March 1 and 2, at the Royal Court Theatre, in aid of the Indian Women's Education Association.

CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

and Saturdays, from 7 to 9 p.m., is urgently needed. Every member is asked to help to distribute handbills to-day (Friday), Saturday and Monday morning and afternoon. Tickets for the N.P.U. meeting to-night, for the Opera House meeting on Thursday, and for the Albert Hall on March 26 (1s. and 6d.) can be had at the shop.

GREENWICH, DEPTFORD & WOOLWICH.
Hon. Sec.—Miss R. W. Billingham,
T. Galscroft Road, Blackheath, S.E.

Mrs. Drummond's meeting has been unavoidably postponed. Good meetings were held in Woolwich on Wednesday and Friday, when Miss Jacobs (chair, Miss Gregory) and Miss Kelly (chair, Miss Cox) respectively spoke. Members are requested to make the Queen's Hall meeting of the M.P.U. (which takes place this evening at 8 p.m.) as widely known as possible. Jumble parcels will be welcomed.

HACKNEY.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. F. W. Jones, 39, Pembury Road.
A very thoughtful paper was read at the Hackney

Baths by Mr. Pollard on Friday last. Miss A. Gutteridge was in the chair. A Jumble Sale will be held on March 22 and 23, and parcels should be sent to the above address. A Dance and Whist Drive will be held on March 30. Single tickets 2s. 6d., double 4s.

HAMMERSMITH.
Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss Carson, 40, Melrose
Gardens.

Members are invited to take part in a cookery competition to be held here on Friday next, at 8 p.m. Will members and their friends look up contributions for a Jumble Sale on March 16? They may be sent to above address at any time. It is hoped to add a substantial amount to the shop fund, and also to complete the Self-Denial fund.

HAMPSTEAD.
Shop and Office—178, Finchley Road.
Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Hicks and Miss C. Collier.

Members who were present at Friday's meeting were much impressed with Mrs. Drummond's exposition of the need of militant action at the present juncture. An appeal to those unable to join the next protest to contribute to the expenses of others who could not afford faces met with an excellent response. Hand-painted cards for the "Jumble Sale" designed by Miss Promises are wanted from those able (1) to take certain times at the Oxford Circus collecting pitch (2) to make sweets, marmalade or cakes, or do needlework for special sale at the shop, or help in other ways. Those who, not being National members, receive no self-denial collecting cards direct from headquarters, should apply for them to the shop. Another splendid meeting was held on the 15th with Mrs. Funnell addressing Miss Douglas Smith. The Jumble Sale has been postponed till the middle of April, but parcels may still be sent to the shop for storage.

HENDON AND GOLDER'S GREEN.
Shop and Office—5th, The Parade, Golder's Green.
Hon. Org. Sec.—Mrs. Wyatt, Derby House, Hendon.
A Rummage Sale will be held as soon as possible.
Will members please send parcels to Mrs. Wyatt at
above address? It is hoped members will bear in mind
the purity of money to be presented at the Albert Hall
meeting.

ILFORD.
Hon. Sec.—Miss Haslam, 63, Cranbrook Road.

Every spare moment must be given to enacting and distributing handbills. All can and must do something. The Saturday and Wednesday meetings are most important, and members who cannot volunteer for militant service are depended on to keep these going while some of the usual workers are absent. The treasurer will be glad of all possible assistance during Self-Denial Week.

ISLINGTON.
Office—347, Goswell Road, E.C. Hon. Sec.—Miss
E. M. Cassiday.

Will members call at the office at any time and take away a supply of bills advertising the protest and write down where they intend to distribute? Workers are also needed to help canvass and advertise for the meeting at Queen's Head Schools on March 13. The Jumble Sale will take place on March 16, and members who have not yet sent in their contributions are asked to do so at once.

KENSINGTON.
Shop and Office—143, Church Street, Kensington, W.
Tel., 3118 Western. Hon. Sec.—Miss Evelyn Sharp.
The open-air campaign is proceeding vigorously.
Every day meetings are being held by Miss Brackenbury, Mrs. McKewen, and others, and a decorated
waggonette patrols the district with a speaker and bill
distributors. The members At Home, held by the

THE FORTHCOMING WEEK.

peakers' Class. Miss Rosa Leo 7.45 p.m.
 Frank Franklin (Chair). Miss I

Green. Display of Jiu-Jitsu by

Madame Garrud..... 8 p.m.
Home, Mrs. A. J. Webbe, Mrs.
Weeden, Miss Ada Moore. Hostess:

Mrs. Evelyn Westoby	3.30 p.m.
Mr. Misses Coombs	11.30 a.m.
Mr. Gatty	8 p.m.

KINGSTON, SURBITON AND DISTRICT.
Organiser—Miss Helen Jollie, 18, Orchard Road,

LAMBETH.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. A. M. Hawkins, 60, Hackford Road,
Brixton.

LEWISHAM.
Hon. Secs.—Miss Christina Campbell, Miss C. Town-

NORTH ISLINGTON AND HORNSEY.
Office—19, St. Thomas's Road, Finsbury Park.

Will members and friends please note that the At Home, fixed for March 7, will not take place owing to the bad weather at the Lynden Green House.

N.W. LONDON.
 215, High Road, Kilburn. Tel. 1183, Hamp-
 stead. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell.

PADDINGTON AND MARYLEBONE.
Shop and Office—82, Praed Street, W.
(Near Grosvenor Gardens, West London.)

STREATHAM.
Shop and Office—5, Shrubby Road, Streatham.
Ham. Soc. Miss Levene Trear

The Streatham Hall public meeting last Thursday was most successful, and those who worked so hard to fill the hall must have felt amply repaid. Special

UXBRIDGE & DISTRICT.
Organiser—Miss Givcen, Winchester Lodge, Cowley

Last Tuesday there was a meeting for women only in the Rockingham Hall at which Miss Isabel Seymour

have a most interesting address. On Saturday afternoon a drawing-room meeting was given at Homewood by Miss Weir and Miss Lee, at which Miss Tyson spoke. The meeting in the Town Hall on Tuesday is being well advertised. Miss Vera Holmes came down with the motor car on Friday and Tuesday, and on Saturday morning there was a poster parade which attracted a good deal of attention.

WEST HAM,
 Hon. Sec.—Miss D. M. Hooper, Old Manor Farm,

One member who finds herself debarred from military makes an appeal for a substitute, offering to pay

expenses, another militant asks for someone to take her place as paper-seller during her coming absence. Will members and friends who can give anything (either outright or profits only) to the Home-made Sale on March 13, for Self-Denial Week, kindly let the secretary know? And will those who cannot, come instead and buy provisions that every household must have? Please apply to any of the committee for (a) Drawing-room meeting cards (see programme); (b) Earlham Hall handbills for March 13; (c) Whist Drive Tickets or March 23. Thanks to the Misses Read for a donation of 4s. and to all members who continue their regular subscriptions.

WIMBLEDON.

Shop—2, Victoria Crescent, Broadway. Tel. 1023. P.O. Wimbledon. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Dorset Hall, Merton, Surrey.

A new interest has been awakened locally in the Suffrage Movement by the speech delivered by Mrs. Lamartine Yates before the Compton Guild, and results are already being felt. The opening meeting of the Lecture Hall series was a great success, being well attended by strangers and fully reported in the local press. It is hoped that members will canvass eagerly for the series and dispose of many tickets. Will members who have undertaken weekly distribution of handbills, remember to fetch them from the office? On March 13 Mrs. Brailford will give an address on "The Government's Treatment of Woman Suffrage," and Mr. G. B. O'Dell will also speak. Thanks to Mrs. F. B. Smith for her generous gift, to Mrs. Vernon and Mr. Geoffrey Harvey for their hand-some donations, and to Miss Foley for her renewed gift lending library. All members are invited to come (and bring friends) to the invitation tea at Dorset Hall, Merton (not at the office), on March 8. Please send acceptances not later than March 6. On Sunday an immense crowd gathered on the Common, when Mrs. Lamartine Yates and Miss Elsie Myers addressed the meeting. Votes for Women were sold out quickly. More sellers are still needed for the Common meetings.

WIMBLEDON PARK AND S. WIMBLEDON.
Hon. Sec.—Miss Allan, 75, Woodside, Wimbledon.
Tel. 1037 P.O.

There is plenty of work ahead preparing for Self-Denial Week. The secretary welcomes suggestions and is ready to take up workable ideas likely to bring in good returns. It has been decided to hire out the Court train used in "The £12 Look" for the sum of 2s. 6d. a performance and carriage both ways. Will other Unions please note this? Members are urged to attend the special Members' Meeting on March 6. They shall be notified of time and place as soon as possible. It is hoped that a series of indoor evening meetings will be started shortly, and help with these will be much appreciated. Paper sellers for Monday evenings are urgently required. In the Broadway, on Saturday evening, Mr. John Simpson made an extremely fine speech to a very large crowd. Mr. G. T. Heard (chairman) again brought to notice the inhuman treatment of Mr. Ball, and the resolution calling for a Government measure to enfranchise women was seconded from the audience and carried by a large majority (only four dissentients). Acknowledged with thanks, Miss V. Laughton, 1s.

Home Counties.

BEXHILL-ON-SEA.

Shop—25, Station Road. Organiser—Miss M. S. Allen.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Holden, 19, Eversley Road.

A most successful meeting was held at the Victoria Hall, on Tuesday, February 20, when a most sterling and eloquent speech was made by Miss Abrahams. Thanks to the good work done by members in working it up. Several new members were made, and a good collection was taken. The organiser is anxious to take a shop in a better position than the present one, and has asked the members to contribute a certain sum a year towards it. Many have come forward with splendid offers and it is hoped that before March 25 sufficient will be guaranteed to enable her to make the change. The promises so far are: Miss Bonham, £4 yearly; Miss Bourne, £1 yearly; Mrs. Holden, £2 yearly; Miss Stewart, £20 yearly.

BOURNEMOUTH.

Office—231, Old Christchurch Road.

Hon. Sec.—Miss B. Barry.

In the absence of the hon. treasurer the hon. secretary would be glad if all those who have not yet paid their annual subscriptions would do so as soon as possible. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Haig, 5s.; Mrs. Durant, 2s.; Mrs. Cattell, 1s.

BRIGHTON, HOVE AND DISTRICT.
Office—8, North Street, Quadrant. Tel. 1033 Nat.
Organiser—Miss G. Allen.

Members willing to help with street collecting during Self-Denial Week are asked to send in their names to the organiser. The members' meeting will be postponed on Friday, March 1, because of the Free Church League Suffrage meeting. Sincere thanks to members and friends who helped to make the Steyning meeting a success. Besides open-air meetings, General Drummond very kindly addressed two drawing-room meetings. Week-end meetings Saturday, 3 p.m. and Sunday, 11.30 a.m., when Mrs. Leigh will speak.

CANTERBURY AND SOUTH KENT.
Organiser—Miss F. E. Macaulay, Trevorra, 30, Bouverie Road West, Folkestone.

Friends are earnestly asked to do their utmost to make Miss Christabel Pankhurst's meeting in Dover Town Hall a great success. Tickets may be had from Miss Wilson, 5, East Cliff, Dover, or at Messrs. Dawson, where a plan of the Hall may be seen. Friends coming from Folkestone are informed that a train leaves Folkestone Central at 7.45 p.m., which arrives at Dover Priory about 5 minutes' walk from the Town Hall at 8.13 p.m. The organiser speaks at the Social Service in connection with Mr. Carlisle's Church, Folkestone, next Tuesday evening, March 5, at 8 p.m., and on the following Tuesday, March 12, to the Folkestone Adult Women's School, in the Friends' Meeting House.

Fri., Mar. 8.—Dover Town Hall, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 11.30 a.m., 8.30 p.m.

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

Organiser—Miss M. S. Allen. Shop—3, Trinity Street, Hastings.

Many thanks to the members who have helped so well to advertise Mrs. Periwé's meetings. Much interest has been aroused amongst the working women of Silverhill. A large number of Votes for Women were sold at the pitch this week, but the organiser would be really glad if more members would volunteer for this work, which is both necessary and interesting. At this critical time it is imperative that all members should help.

Mon., Mar. 4.—Hastings, 3, Trinity Street, At Home, 4 to 6 p.m.

HITCHIN, LETCHWORTH, & DISTRICT.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Goodfellow, Elm Tree House, Letchworth. Mrs. E. B. Impy, 2, Whitnash Road, Hitchin.

This At Home was quite a success and members are grateful to Miss D. Pethick for kindly coming to speak. Plans for local work included the arranging of a speaker's class to be held fortnightly, the next to take place on March 12. It is hoped that members will take full advantage of this opportunity. Dr. Hanson's visit is unavoidably postponed. Volunteers are wanted for paper-selling.

OXFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Graham, 27, Northam Road.

Owing to excellent work done by Miss Phipp the meeting at Abingdon on Tuesday was quite a success. Miss Hughes was the speaker. Thanks to Mrs. Hiphstone Walker for her At Home on Wednesday. Although Miss Hughes is leaving, members must not allow their energies to relax as a programme is being arranged for meetings every fortnight to be addressed by London speakers. Members are earnestly requested to fill up the list of questions submitted to them and return at once to Mrs. Richards in order that the work may be properly organised. Volunteers are specially needed for paper-selling at Oxford and for working up the fortnightly meetings. Where possible

will members become regular subscribers to the campaign fund? Promises already received: Miss Crook, 6d. per month. Miss MacMunn, 1s. per month.

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.
Organiser—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 1, Polham Road, Portsmouth.

The Southampton whist drive went off very successfully. Many thanks to Counsellor Dr. and Mrs. Stancombe and Miss Kennedy for prizes. Also to Mrs. May for the beautiful cushion which was raffled in aid of the funds and won by Mr. L. Kennedy. Members in both towns are reminded that Jubilee Sales will be held in April. Will they please keep contributions of clothing, &c., until then. The organiser hopes that members will work hard to secure contributions for their Self-Denial Week cards so that a record amount may be sent up. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Percival (towards railway fares), 21s.; Miss Peacock, 2s.; Miss Mabel Peacock, 5s.; Lecture Fee, 6s.; Raffle of Cushion, £1 2s.; Profit on Whist Drive (Southampton), £1 18s. 3d.; Sale of petticoat, 1s. 6d.; Profit on entertainment, £2 18s. 3d.

Fri., Mar. 1.—Southampton, Hodges, Above Bar Election Office, Mrs. Buckley, 7.30 p.m.
Wed., Mar. 6.—Southampton, Naimi Tal, College Place, Sewing Meeting. Hostess, Mrs. May, 3.30 p.m.

READING AND NEWBURY.

Shop and Office—19, Market Place.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss G. L. Cobb.

A meeting was held at Newbury Picture Palace on Monday, February 19. Alderman Elliott was in the chair, and Signors Constantini and Miss Hicks were the speakers. Tea was served, and Mrs. Peak must be congratulated on the success of the evening. A good report appeared in the *Newport Weekly News*. On Feb. 20 at a well-attended meeting of members and friends in Reading, Miss Hicks, M.A., was the speaker. Thanks to Miss Portman, Miss Duff for 1s. each, and to Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Kaye for cakes.

REDHILL.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Cather, The Red Cottage, Cavendish Road.

A meeting was held at Ladbroke Road on Saturday evening when a large crowd listened attentively while Mrs. Cather explained the necessity for the protest on March 4.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Carlton Room, Mrs. Hohm, 8 p.m.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Office—11, Ye Pantylles.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Yeoman (pro tem.).

A meeting was held at Five Ways on Wednesday, February 21, when Miss Harner spoke. Will all members and friends bear in mind the Jubilee Sale, which will take place in April. More paper-sellers are urgently needed. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Ashdown, 2s.

WEST AND NORTH KENT.

Organiser—Miss Evelyn Billing, 120, Kent Avenue, Gillingham.

Here Bay members are asked to ensure a good attendance of sympathisers and "anti's" at the At Home to be held at the Connaught Hotel on Monday, March 11, 3 to 5.15. Major Lang Sims has kindly promised to take the chair. Speakers: Mrs. Cather and the Organiser. Acting hostess, Mrs. Kessick Bowes. In Chatham, the organiser is making known to Mr. Hobler, M.P., and to the public the deep dissatisfaction with Mr. Hobler's grossly inaccurate speech in Gillingham. An open air protest meeting (re Mr. Hobler's attitude) was held on Wednesday, February 24 at Butcher's Street, and much sympathy was shown by a large crowd of his own constituents. Members are urged to make known the important meetings (see below):

Fri., Mar. 1.—Rochester, off High Street (probably Northgate), 8 p.m. Poster Parade, from Star Hill, 7.40 p.m.
Wed., Mar. 6.— Maidstone, The Cannon, 7.30 p.m.
Fri., Mar. 8.—Gillingham, King Street, 8 p.m.

WORKING.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Norman Barrett, Maybury Croft, Heathside.

Will members make a special effort to attend next Tuesday's meeting (see below), and bring any friends. Any members desiring Self-Denial collecting cards can have them from above address.

Tues., Mar. 5.—Maybury Croft, Heathside Avenue, Miss K. Jarvis.

The Midlands.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

Office—57, John Bright Street, Tel. 1443 Midland.
Organisers—Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Gladys Hazel.

Mrs. Abbott has very kindly volunteered to act as "buyer" to the shop. Will anyone address suggestions for new stock to her at the office. As many members are going on the next protest, volunteers for all kinds of work are urgently needed. During Self-Denial week, in addition to the ordinary collecting, members are going to try and make some money at street hawking. Will members and sympathisers send gifts of sweets, cakes, tarts, jam, fruit or other saleable produce? Any other suggestions of means for raising money will be very gladly received.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Birmingham, Queen's College, Miss Dale, Mr. Fred Hughes, 8 p.m.

COVENTRY.

Office—33, Earl Street. Organiser—Miss Warwick.

The meeting at the Priory Row Hall on February 22 was most successful. Members are asked to do double work while the organiser is absent, to make the meetings a great success. Mr. D. M. Mason, M.P., will take the chair at Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's meeting at the Baths on March 16, at 8 p.m. Will members sell more tickets? Those who would like to steward are asked to communicate with Mrs. Widdington. Handbills can be had from Miss Haywood, 8, Dalton Road, Coventry, who has undertaken this part of the work. Members should send her the number of tickets sold by March 12 at latest. Members are asked to make special sacrifices for Self-Denial week, as some of their comrades will probably be in Holloway, and unable to collect. Miss Bull has undertaken to advertise Mrs. Lawrence's meeting, by poster parades, &c.

Thurs., Mar. 7.—Priory Row Assembly Rooms, Miss Evans, 7.30 p.m.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Office—14, Bowling Green Street, Leicester. Tel. 1715 Leicester.

Organiser—Miss Dorothy Pethick. An excellent meeting was held on Tuesday, Feb. 20, when Miss Annie Kenney spoke. Everyone immensely appreciated her stirring address, and there were many new members and volunteers for active service. Miss Nelly Crocker has kindly promised to speak next Tuesday, and as she has many friends among the Leicester Suffragettes, it is hoped that a right good welcome will be given to her. The organiser will be most glad to receive the names of yet further volunteers for March 4. Can anyone lend a table for a short time to the shop? Handbills advertising the fortnightly meetings can be had at the shop. Will members take them for distribution?

Tues., Mar. 5.—Leicester, Temperance Hall, Room No. 4, Miss Nelly Crocker, 8 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Miller, 30, Wellington Road.

Miss Annie Kenney addressed a good meeting at the Friendly Societies Hall, on Thursday evening. Several new members were made, and it is hoped that this district will be well represented on March 4. On Friday evening Miss Kenney spoke at the Church House, Peterborough, when all present were greatly interested and representatives of several societies present asked for a speaker to address them on the question of Votes for Women.

NOTTINGHAM.

Office—4, Carlton Street, Tel. 511.

Organisers—Miss Roberts and Miss Crocker. A limited number of tickets for Albert Hall meeting on March 23 are now on sale, price 2s. 6d. Early application should be made. Self-denial cards will shortly

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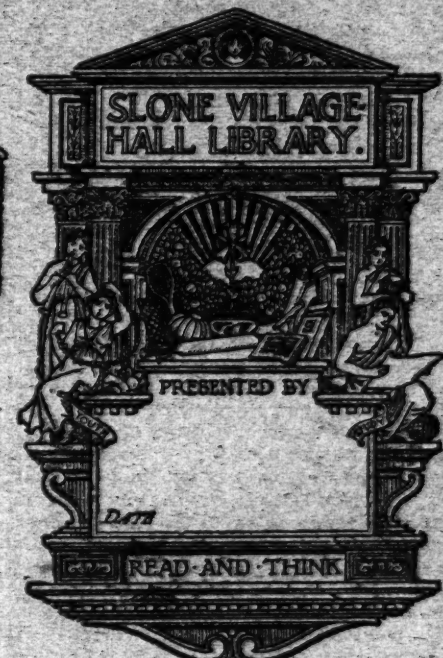
Apart from the personal interest attaching to a book-plate, it is of distinct value in that it ensures the return of volumes sent to borrowers who frequently forget to whom the book should be returned, so that the money expended on a book-plate is really a good investment.

My charges for book-plates, although each one is designed specially, are so small that it is hoped to still further popularise their use and inculcate a personal care of and interest in books. In this connection it may be suggested that a book-plate is a very suitable and appreciable gift to any lover of books, young or old. I have designed several as wedding presents.



Specimen Design for Lady's Bookplate.

either the arms or some other attribute or quality or taste of the owner. But hitherto it has not been possible to produce original, specially-designed book-plates at other than a cost which is beyond the means of many who would like to possess one. To have a book-plate of one's very own, designed in accordance with one's own ideas, has seemed out of the question. It is no longer so. My present endeavour is to fill the need. I have a staff of artists familiar with the work, each book-plate being treated separately and differently in order to incorporate some special feature as desired by the purchaser, and the prices vary from as low as 17s. 6d. for the design, block, and 100 plates, complete, to four or five guineas for the best copper-plate work; but in



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be issued. It has been arranged that the total amount collected in each centre should be presented by a local representative at the Albert Hall meeting. Nottingham must score high. Those who have been prevented from going to the protest will have an opportunity of service in this form.

SHROPSHIRE.

Organiser—Miss Sarah Ryland, The Hawthornes, Haygate Road, Wellington.

A meeting of members and friends will shortly be held in Shrewsbury to discuss the formation of a local union. During Self-Denial week members are asked to do their utmost to raise funds by their individual efforts and by helping with street collections which will take place in Shrewsbury and Wellington. The next important public meeting will be in the Wrekin Hall, Wellington on Wednesday, March 20, at 8 p.m., when Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will be the chief speaker. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. can be had from Miss Keay, New Street, Wellington, or from above address.

STAFFORD.

Organiser—Miss Grew, 1, Corporation Street.

Thanks to Miss Galloway for the use of a room at the Zealand Café on Thursday, February 22, when a member's meeting was held to discuss plans for future work. It was decided to hold a drawing-room meeting for Lady Isabel Margesson in Stafford on March 28 (details will be announced later), and if possible a dramatic performance will be given in April. Dr. Moffett took the chair and introduced Miss Grew in an able little speech. Gratefully acknowledged: Dr. Moffett, £1 6s.; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Davis, 2s. 6d.; Misses Court and Tylecote, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Good, 1s.; Misses Davies and Fletcher, 1s. Two new subscribers were gained to VOTES FOR WOMEN. On Friday, February 23, Miss Grew spoke at the Weekly Literary Meeting in connection with the Methodist Chapel in Goul Square. Miss Grew will be glad to have names and addresses of people in the district on whom she may call. Friends in the neighbourhood of Leek are asked to help in the working up of Town Hall meeting of March 23, at which Lady Isabel Margesson and Mrs. Drummond will speak.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

Organiser—Miss Warwick. Hon. Sec.—Miss H. East, Fairview.

The meeting at the Free Library on Friday, Feb. 23, was a great success. Miss Jo-chim's splendid address was much appreciated. Members will be pleased to know that Miss East is now secretary, and will be able to give all information. Many thanks to Mrs. Hayden for her kindness in meeting the speakers and entertaining them to lunch. Also to Miss East and Mrs. Large for their kind hospitality for the night. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Scriven, 2s. 6d.

WALSALL.

Shop and Office—12, Leicester Street.

Hon. Organiser—Miss P. Ward.

Two enthusiastic Tax Resistance Meetings organised by the W.S.P.U. were held on Thursday, February 22, at which Mrs. Kingston-Parkes spoke. The usual resolution was passed unanimously and many new members joined. Will any members help the shop by making marmalade, chutney or anything that will sell?

Thurs., Mar. 7.—Stoke New, Broom Green, Council School, Miss Gladys Hazel, 8 p.m.

West of England.

BATH.

Shop—12, Walcot St. Hon. Organiser—Mrs. Mansel.

Hon. Sec.—The Misses Tollenmahe.

Mrs. Karwood's able speech at the Guildhall on Friday last was much appreciated. Mrs. Mansel also spoke on the political situation and the necessity for military. This series of meetings will close to-day (Friday—see below), and it is hoped there will be large attendance. A new series will be inaugurated later. The programme of the series at Bath is as follows:

are very good. Preparations are also going ahead for the meeting which Mrs. Morgan Dockrell will address on Saturday, March 3, and many teachers have signified their intention of being present. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Bladway, £1.

Fri., Mar. 1.—Guildhall, Miss Georgina Brackenbury, 8 p.m.
Sat., Mar. 2.—York House Hotel, At Home, Miss Georgina Brackenbury. Chair: Mrs. Mansel, 3.30 p.m.

Sat., Mar. 3.—Assembly Rooms, Mrs. Morgan Dockrell, 3.30 p.m.

BRISTOL.

Office—37, Queen's Road, Clifton, Tel. 1343.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Dove-Wilcock. Hon. Treas.—Mrs. Young.

A well-attended At Home was addressed last week by Miss Edith Clarendon. Question night at the Kingsley Hall proved a successful experiment: there was a good attendance, and owing to a request on the part of the women present, men will be admitted to those meetings in future. Names are coming in for the militant protest, but Miss Kenney would like more. It is a pity not to respond to Mr. Hobhouse's invitation and show him what Bristol can do. Self-Denial Week is coming. All those out of prison should do what they can to set this week on one side to collect for local work. The more money the more work can be accomplished. Please send jambs to the shop. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Morris, 4s.; Victoria Rooms collection, 9s. 8/4; Proceeds from "How the Vote was Won," £10 18s. 6d.; Collections, £1 2s. 9d. Mon., Mar. 4.—Victoria Rooms, Rev. Ronald Ramsay, 3.30 p.m.
Thurs., Mar. 7.—Kingsley Hall, Free Meeting, 8 p.m.

ILFRACOMBE AND BARNSTAPLE.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—Mrs. du Sautoy Newby.

St. Mary's, Broad Park Avenue, Ilfracombe.
Hon. Lit. Secretary—Miss Bath, Kuring Hom, Larkstone, Ilfracombe.

A most enjoyable evening was spent by the members who accepted Miss Hall's kind invitation for Shrove Tuesday. Prizes were given for the different games, and impromptu speeches were made. Miss Bath had her goods sold for Tax Resistance last week. The tax collector and auctioneer were extremely nice and sympathetic.

Eastern Counties.

GHELMSFORD.

Organiser—Miss Grace Roe.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Bartlett, Oak Cottage, Park Road.

Successful meetings have been addressed during the week by Miss D. Rock, Miss Blyth, and Miss Chapple. Will members please do their utmost to make Mrs. Webb's meeting widely known.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Grand Jury Room, Shire Hall, Mrs. A. J. Webb, 3.30 p.m.
Fri., Mar. 8.—Market Place, 3 p.m.

LAOCTON-ON-SEA.

Shop—47, Rosemary Row.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Lilley, Holland House.

A great effort is being made for raising funds during Self-Denial week. Several very practical suggestions were made at the last members' meeting, and some of these suggestions are already being put into practice. Mrs. Worr, Mrs. Tighe and Mrs. Oak have kindly consented to get up a bridge drive on March 11, and Mrs. Finch, Mrs. Marsh, Miss A. Hawkes and Mrs. Tebbutt a Whist Drive on March 13. Sincere thanks to Mrs. Worr for her generous gift of marmalade, which is already finding a ready sale, and to all members who have responded with promises of gifts or help of different kinds.

FELIXSTOWE.

Organiser—Miss Grace Roe. Hon. Sec.—Miss Ethel

Lewis, Woodcroft, Bath Road.
Members and friends will be glad to hear that Miss Winifred Vaughan and Miss Maud Downing have

secured the services of Mrs. B. S. King, The Misses Douglas-Held, Miss M. Blashopp, and Miss Janet Steward for the Suffrage play, to be held at the Spa Pavilion. Miss Lloyd appeals to everyone to join Mrs. Dexter's working party, as much work has to be done to make the stall a success. Great interest has been aroused by Mrs. Brailford's visit. Offers of drawing-rooms for meetings will be most welcome.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Sorrento, Leopold Road. Work Party, 3 p.m.

IPSWICH AND DISTRICT.

Shop—Dial Lane, Ipswich. Organiser—Miss Grace Roe, 10, Silent Street, Ipswich. Shop Sec.—Miss King.

Many thanks to Mrs. S. A. Notcutt and Mrs. Alan Turner for so kindly arranging an At Home for Mrs. Brailford. Much interest has been aroused and several new members made. Will every member please answer the letter they have received re Self-Denial Week, saying what help they can give?

NORWICH AND DISTRICT.

Organiser—Miss Margaret West, 6, Essex Street. On Thursday afternoon, Feb. 22, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence spoke at an At Home given by the local members in Sheringham Hotel ballroom. Over a hundred guests were present. A great many converts were made, and ten new members joined during the afternoon. In the evening a packed audience assembled to hear Mrs. Lawrence in the Concert Hall, Holt, and listened with the keenest enthusiasm to her speech. Both meetings were an unqualified success, and a copy of the resolution has been sent to Mr. Noel Buxton, the member for the constituency.

Fri., Mar. 1.—Norwich, 137, Newmarket Road. Members' meeting. Miss Douglas Smith, 4 p.m. Bull Close Road, Boys' School, Magdalen Street, Miss Douglas Smith, 8 p.m.

Wales.

Organiser—Miss Rachel Barrett, B.Sc., 93, Ninian Road, Cardiff.

The campaign in North Monmouthshire is being carried on with vigour. On Monday, February 19, a most successful meeting was organised by Mrs. James Williams and local members at the Co-operative Hall, Abergyshean. Mr. David Jones, a prominent Liberal, took the chair, and Miss Rachel Barrett spoke to a crowded and enthusiastic audience. A large number of papers were sold and a good collection taken. On Thursday, February 22, another splendid meeting, organised by Mrs. Bennett, was held at Blaenavon, with Councillor W. L. Cook in the chair and Miss Barrett as speaker. The hall was crowded with an interested and sympathetic audience. New members were made and good collection was taken. On Friday, February 16, Mrs. Joshua Jones, a drawing-room meeting at her house, which was addressed by Mrs. Montague. New members were made. Will all members collect their old clothes, etc., for a Jumble Sale, to be held on Monday (see below). A cart will be sent round to-morrow (Saturday) to collect. Those members who live some distance away should send their things direct to Mrs. Bennett, Royston, Pontymolle, who is secretary for the sale.

Mon., Mar. 4.—Pontymolle, Mission Hall, Jumble Sale.

NEWPORT.

Office—11, Stow Hill, Newport, Mon. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Humphrey Mackworth. Mrs. Southwood Jones presided over a good attendance on Wednesday, February 21, when Miss M. Williams (Milford Haven) made a delightful speech. New members were made. More members are wanted to canvass the women municipal voters. Names should be sent in to the office.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Temperance Hall, At Home, 3.30 p.m.

North-Eastern Counties.

BRADFORD.

Office—68, Manningham Lane. Phone 4034. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Beldin, 9, Walmer Villas. Hon. Treas.—Mrs. Hardy Behrens. The Speakers' Class is causing great interest. On Monday Mrs. Greaves spoke on "The Present Political Situation" (Mrs. Bompas in the chair), and an interesting discussion followed. On Tuesday Mrs. Naylor gave a very impressive address on "The Necessity for Militancy." Seven Bradford women have volunteered for the next protest, and all who cannot join them must help in other ways. Self-Denial Week begins March 9. Will friends be ready to make a special effort to send up a goodly sum to headquarters as a result of this opportunity?

Mon., Mar. 4.—At Home and Tea, 4 to 5.30; Meeting, 5.30 to 6.30.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD.

Organiser—Miss Annie Williams, 1, Fitzwilliam St. West, Huddersfield. Hon. Sec.—Miss Lettice Floyd. The collection at the Victoria Hall on Thursday, February 8, was £1.3s. 4d. and the Sale of Tickets, 19s. The fortnightly meetings are always announced in Votes for Women. Will members make a note of this fact and read the organiser's report carefully? Thanks to those who responded so generously to the "William Hall Fund" appeal at Tuesday's meeting. Mrs. Wilson's thoughtful speech was much appreciated. The organiser hopes that members are making their plans for getting money during Self-Denial Week.

Tues., Mar. 5.—Halifax, Mechanics' Institute, Miss Annie Williams and others, 8 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Huddersfield, Parochial Hall, Miss Annie Williams and others, 8 p.m.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT.

Office—3, Cookridge Street. Organiser—Miss Mary Phillips. A most successful and enthusiastic members' meeting was held at which Miss Naylor spoke. The spirit shown augurs well for the future of local work, and will bear its first fruits in the action of local volunteers who represent the district on March 4. Members have decided to give afternoon teas in the office every Tuesday afternoon, when they can meet informally and talk over plans for local work. Members are very specially invited to the first one, on March 5, to be given by Mrs. Oldroyd. The organiser will be present and hopes to be able to give a first hand account of the protest. Miss Farmer's departure from Leeds is deeply regretted. Mrs. Craven has kindly undertaken the literature department in her place, and Miss Clarius Palmer is setting energetically to work to develop the sale of Votes for Women. A "Home Produce" sale will be held on Tuesday, March 12, as a special Self-Denial effort. Gifts of cakes, sweets, jam, marmalade, etc., will be gladly received by Mrs. Malcolm, who is also joint hon. sec. with Mrs. Dodgson of the At Home committee. All promises of teas for future Tuesdays should also be sent to her.

Tues., Mar. 5.—Leeds, 3, Cookridge Street, Afternoon Tea. Hostess: Mrs. Oldroyd, 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. Speakers' Class, 7.30 p.m.

NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT.

Office—77, Blackett Street. Tel. No.: 4591 Central. Organiser—Miss Laura Ainsworth. The Protest is drawing to close that all members must make up their minds to send in their names. Those who cannot possibly go will have an opportunity of helping during Self-Denial week. Arrangements are already made, and fresh suggestions will be gladly welcomed. A footing has been made in West Hartlepool, owing to the magnificent work of Mrs. Norman, and it is hoped that the work so well started will be maintained. Miss East has offered to devote every Tuesday afternoon to making up accounts, and Miss Hey is offering her free afternoon to helping in outdoor work. Will others please follow their example?

Fri., Mar. 1.—South Shields, A.S.R.S., Miss Laura Ainsworth, 8 p.m. South Shields, Victoria Hall, Miss Clarius Wilcox. Chair: Miss Thompson, 8 p.m.

Sun., Mar. 3.—Darlington, I.L.P., Miss Laura Ainsworth, 7.30 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Newcastle, 77, Blackett Street, Members' Meeting and Speakers' Class, 7.30 p.m.

NORMANTON.

Organiser—Miss Mary Phillips, 3, Cookridge Street, Leeds.

A meeting will be held in the Baptist Schoolroom on Thursday, March 14, at 7.30 p.m. Dr. Eleanor Spence of Castleford has kindly promised to take the chair, and Mrs. Dodgson (Woodlesford) and Miss Mary Phillips will speak. Will all sympathisers please apply to Mrs. Johnson, Virginia House, Castleford Road, or Mrs. Peake, 21, Cambridge Street, for bills to distribute, and make the meeting as widely known as possible?

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT.

Office—24, Chapel Walk, Sheffield. Hon. Sec.—Miss Coxhill. All members are asked to be present at Wednesday's debate. Paper-sellers will be welcomed.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Shop, debate, 8 p.m.

YORK.

Office—Colby Chambers, Telephone, 592, Coppergate. Organiser—Miss Key-Jones.

Members please come forward to insure Mrs. Drummond's meeting being a great success. The At Home on Tuesday, February 20, was well attended, many strangers being present. All listened with deep interest to Mrs. Mansel's splendid address. Miss Naylor addressed the members on Wednesday, February 21.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Office, Speakers' Class, S. Key-Jones, Esq., 8 p.m.

North-Western Counties.

BOLTON, BURY, AND DISTRICT.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Mrs. Margaret E. Farrington, 118, Dorset Street, Haigh, Bolton.

Gratefully acknowledged: Miss L. E. Coops, 5s.; Mrs. F. W. Coops, 2s. 6d. Mrs. F. W. Coops held a reunion at her residence on Friday evening last, when there was a good attendance of members. Discussion took place on the political situation and the forthcoming deputation on March 4. It is gratifying to state that three members subscribed 10s. each towards the fund to send representatives to London. Others will help the cause during Self-Denial week.

HALE, ALTRINCHAM, AND DISTRICT.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Wild, 54, Lock Road, Altrincham.

A public meeting was held on Thursday evening in the Albert Street School Room. Mrs. Janie Baines was the speaker. A splendid appeal was made to the women, with the result that three women have given in their names to go on the deputation.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT.

Office—11, Renshaw Street, Tel., 3761 Royal. Organiser—Miss Davies.

It is most essential that the general public should understand why the protest on March 4 is made, and also that after the event they should have true details. This can only be accomplished by bringing them in touch with Votes for Women, and Miss Davies pleads very earnestly for at least a dozen members to sell Votes for Women on March 2, and again on the 8th and 9th. Please write Miss Martin, vote secretary, and promise her some time, if it is only an hour. During the absence of the organiser, Mrs. Abraham and Miss Martin have most kindly offered to take charge of the office.

MANCHESTER.

Office—32, King Street, W. Hon. Sec.—Miss L. Williamson.

Will members begin selling tickets (now ready) for the Free Trade Hall meeting on March 26? Speakers: Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Mr. Israel Zangwill. Chair: Mrs. Baines. Organ recital by Miss Lily Muzzell.

Mon., Mar. 4.—Deansgate, Milton Hall, Protest Meeting, 7.30 p.m.

PRESTON, ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA AND DISTRICT.

Organisers—Mrs. Rigby, 24, Winckley Square, Preston; Miss Johnson, the Hydre, Lytham.

At Bilsborrow Wesleyan Mutual Improvement Society, Mrs. Atkinson gave a paper on "The Hon. Mrs. Norton," on Thursday last. On Saturday Mrs. Atkinson again debated with the anti-suffragist, Mr. W. Corney Martin, of Manchester, and was successful. The resolution was carried in the well-filled hall with only eight dissentients. This debate was held specially for the members of the Weavers' Society, in the Weavers' Hall, Preston, and the chair was taken very ably and fairly by Robert Swarbrick, Esq., Sec. of Beavers' Drawers and Loomers' Trade Union. Numbers of Votes for Women were sold. Mrs. Atkinson again spoke, at Mr. George Thwaites' Bible class on Sunday afternoon.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Preston, 17, Carlton Street (top floor), Members' business meeting, 8 p.m.

WALLASEY.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Mahood, Bursough Bridge, Ormskirk; Miss Lee, 55, Belvidere Road, Wallasey.

The meeting on February 19 was splendidly attended, and the large audience were delighted with Mrs. John Edward's paper on "History Repeats Itself." Mrs. Heathcote, the devoted secretary, who is leaving the district, was presented by the members with a fitted writing case as a token of their high appreciation of her splendid work on behalf of the cause. Mrs. Mahood made the presentation.

Mon., Mar. 4.—Seacombe, 1, Mainwaring Road, Papers by members, 8 p.m.

Scotland.

ABERDEEN.

Organiser—Miss Lilias Mitchell, Shop—7, Bon-Accord Street. Hon. Sec.—Miss Emily Fussell.

Every seat was filled in the Y.M.C.A. Hall on Thursday, February 22, and members must have felt well repaid for the last fortnight's work. Miss Burns made a convincing militant speech, and roused the audience to tremendous enthusiasm. A letter was read from Mrs. Pankhurst to the Aberdeen members, expressing regret at being unable to come owing to a heavy cold. Ballie Taggart was in the chair, and the Rev. Alex. Webster proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker. Many thanks to those who took part in the Sandwich parade—the first which has taken place in Aberdeen—and to those who acted as stewards at the meeting. Extra cards of invitation for the At Home for Mrs. Brailford may be had at the shop. The Jumble Sale, which was postponed, will take place at the Gallowgate on Saturday, March 16. Members are urged to come forward for paper-selling in the street or from door to door. It is especially important that this should be done after the protest on March 4.

Mon., Mar. 4.—Carlton Restaurant, At Home, Mrs. Brailford. Chair: Miss Reedman Brown, M.A., 3.30 p.m. Old Aberdeen, Town Hall, Mrs. Brailford. Chair: Mr. Lawson, 8 p.m.

DUNDEE AND EAST FIFE.

Office—61, Nethergate. Organiser—Miss Fraser Smith, M.A. Hon. Sec.—Miss McFarlane. Tel.: 2319.

A reading of the new censored play "The Coronation" was given at the weekly meeting on Wednesday, February 21, to a large and appreciative audience. Members and sympathisers are reminded that contributions can be received to-day at the Foresters' Hall for the cake and candy sale to-morrow. Assistants are requested to be at the hall to-morrow, Saturday, not later than 2 p.m. Tickets for the play have been eagerly bought, but some still remain. These can be had at 61, Nethergate, or at the sale. Refrains will be by east door only. Dundee volunteers for the protest on March 4 will leave for London on Sunday at 5.32 (Tay Bridge Station). Members who are free should take this opportunity of giving them a hearty send off. Names of further volunteers can still be accepted. At the At Home on March 6 after tea

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speech, a dialogue entitled "Lady Butterby and Mrs. McBean," will be given by Dr. Julia Pringle and Miss Grant. Gratefully acknowledged for sale: Mrs. Rollo, 10s.; Mrs. Mackay, 10s.; Miss Ramsay, 2s.; Miss Moffat, 2s.; Miss Young, 2s.; Mrs. Malcolm, 5s.

Sat., Mar. 2.—Dundee, Foresters' Halls. Cake and Candy Sale and Entertainment, 2.30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Dundee, 61, Nethergate. Dr. Julia Pringle and Miss Grant, 8 p.m.

EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND.

Office—3, Malville Place, Queensferry Street. Organiser—Miss Lucy Burns. Shop Sec.—Miss E. Hudson. Tel., 6132 Central.

The Synod Hall was crowded on Wednesday night to hear Mrs. Pankhurst, whose brilliant and impassioned speech roused the whole audience to enthusiasm. Mrs. Archdale, in the chair, spoke of the part played by her mother in the fight of the Edinburgh women students, under Miss Jex Blake, for medical education; and of the fearless championship given these women by her father, "Russell of the Scotsman." The Union owes a debt of gratitude to the choir of men and women who sang the "March of the Women," and to the members of the double string quartette accompanying them. On Wednesday afternoon, through the kind assistance of Mrs. Tod and other ladies of Dalkeith, a meeting for Mrs. Pankhurst was arranged in the Buccleuch Street U. F. Free Church Hall. A number of the women present had walked four miles into Dalkeith to hear Mrs. Pankhurst. Members were made after the meeting, and a large number of Votes for Women were sold.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Kirkcaldy, Ball Room, Station Hotel, Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Brailford, Hostess: Miss Hutchison, 3 p.m.

Thur., Mar. 7.—Edinburgh, Oak Hall, Edinburgh Café, Miss Laura Ainsworth, 3 p.m. 8, Melville Place, Miss Laura Ainsworth, 8 p.m.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

Shop and Office—502, Sauchiehall Street. Tel., 615, Charing Cross. Hon. Org. Sec.—Miss F. McPhun. Organiser—Miss Parker.

Thanks to Miss Underwood, Miss Hector, and a band of helpers, St. Andrew's Hall was beautifully decorated on Tuesday evening last, in honour of Mrs. Pankhurst's visit to Glasgow. An immense audience crowded in as soon as the doors were open to the public, and upon Mrs. Pankhurst's appearance on the platform, accompanied by Rev. David Graham and Miss Barbara Wylie, the greatest enthusiasm was evident. As a result of Mrs. Pankhurst's speech, and also, probably, of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's recent visit to Glasgow, a number of names have been sent in for the protest on March 4. After the meeting, a supper was given in honour of Mrs. Pankhurst, Princess Barlasinski being amongst the guests. The Princess responded to the toast of the guests in an enthusiastic speech. The by-election campaign in the St. Rollox division has been carried on all the week with unabated energy and zeal, the splendid band of workers being directed by Miss B. Wylie and Miss F. McPhun. Large crowds have gathered everywhere to listen to the speakers, and expressions of sympathy and admiration have been heard on all sides. Miss Parker's recent campaign in Ayr has been extremely successful, many members having been made. Members are asked to note that Miss Marjorie Gullan is giving the whole of the profits of her performance at the Athenaeum on March 16 to the Self-Denial Fund. Please call at the office and get tickets to sell. Friday's At Home in Charing Cross Hall was a great success. Princess Barlasinski was the speaker, the chair being taken by Miss B. Wylie. The Princess' speech, telling of the atrocities practised on political prisoners in Russian prisons, made a great impression on all present.

Fri., Mar. 1.—Glasgow, Charing Cross Hall, Mrs. Brailford, 3.30 p.m. Ayr, Committee Room, Town Hall, Mrs. Brailford, 8 p.m.

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SPEAKERS' CLASS.

Hon. Education Mistress—Miss Rosa Lee, 43, Ashworth Mansions, High Avenue, W. Hon. Secretary—Miss Hale, 4, Clementia Inn, W.C. The subject for to-night's class (Room 72, 4 Clementia's Inn, at 7.45 p.m.) will be "Mr. Lloyd George's Attitude Towards the Movement." Will all members who have books kindly return them to Miss Hale without fail either on or before Friday night? Miss Lee's private classes take place every Saturday, by kind permission of Mrs. Ayrton, at 41, Norfolk Street, W., at 4 p.m. All communications with regard to these should be addressed to Miss Lee, and those about the public ones to Miss Hale. Both these classes are open to members of the W.S.P.U. only.

MEN'S POLITICAL UNION

For Women's Emancipation.

Office—13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone—City 6973. Hon. Organising Sec.—Victor D. Daval.

A very effective poster parade was held on Saturday, in order to advertise the protest meeting which will be held in the large Queen's Hall to-night (Friday), at 8 p.m. (doors open at 7.30). The speakers will be: Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., Mr. Mansel-Moulin, and Mr. Duval. Mr. Nevinson will be in the chair. Admission free. Reserved seats at 2s. 6d. and 1s. Thanks to all those who took part in the parade, and distributed leaflets and handbills. The stewards are reminded to be in the Bandroom (Door 16), at 6.30 p.m. Large and appreciative audiences listened to the speakers in Hyde Park on Sunday, and in Regent's Park. Next Sunday Miss Georgina Brackenbury will speak in Hyde Park, at 3 p.m. Mr. J. Clayton will be in the chair. Will members and sympathisers try to be present? It is proposed to begin a vigorous outdoor campaign, and more speakers and chairmen, also volunteers for paper-selling at street corner meetings, are needed. All those willing to help in this way are requested to send in their names without delay. Box seat tickets for the W.S.P.U. Albert Hall Demonstration (price 2s. 6d.) can be obtained at the office.

Amount already acknowledged	£1,324 4 0
Mrs. Isabel Montague Pearson	0 10 0
Mrs. Lewis	0 3 0
Miss Ethel Wedgwood	0 10 0
Miss E. B. Broadhurst	0 5 0
Miss Florence Canning (a small protest against the cruel and inhuman treatment of Mr. Ball)	0 6 0
Mrs. Wardell	0 2 6
Miss Maud Joachim	2 2 0
Mrs. F. G. Hepburn (to help to pay for legal advice for Mr. Ball)	5 0 0
R. Dingley, Esq.	0 5 0
P. O. Lawrence, Esq., K.C.	1 1 0
H. M. T. Lehmann, Esq.	0 2 0
Mrs. C. B. Ireland (towards Ball fund)	0 2 6
Entrance Fees	0 7 0
Total	£1,335 0 0

CLERKS' W.S.P.U.

Hon. Secs.—Miss Phyllis Ayrton, 62, Edith Road, West Kensington. Miss Cynthia Maguire, 15, Carlton Vale, Maida Vale, N.W.

Members are reminded of Self-Denial week—March 8 to 16, and are asked to send in their names, with a list of the evenings they have free. This is a splendid opportunity for those who are unable to take part in militant work. Remember that we have the encouraging results of last year's collections to line up to. Only three weeks to the Jubilee! All remaining parcels should be sent to Miss Caserley, 347, Goswell Road, E.C. (marked Clerks' W.S.P.U.).

IRISH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Hon. Sec.—Miss G. O'Connell Hayes, 19, Buckingham Street, Strand.

The hon. secretary would be glad to receive an offer of a drawing-room in a central position, where an agitation meeting might be held on Saturday afternoon, March 23. There will be the usual fortnightly meeting at the Emerson Club on Tuesday next, March 5, at 8 p.m., when Lieut. Oather, R.N., will speak.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 121. President—Mrs. Forbes Robertson.

Organising Secretary—Miss G. M. Condon.

At the Members' At Home held last Friday, Mrs. Porteus dealt most ably with the political situation of the moment. Miss Nora Hastings in her "maiden speech" touched on many points of interest. She said that the dominant note in the past had been "Might is Right," but the keynote of the Women's Movement was "Right is Might." Miss Edith Anton-Laing spoke some sympathetic words, which were all too few. Among the patrons of the Leap Year Dance at the Prince's Galleries on March 19 will be the Countess Russell, the Lady Sybil Smith, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, the Hon. Captain and Mrs. Maurice Brett (Miss Zena Dare), Miss Lilian Brathwaite, Miss Violet Vanburgh, and Miss Ellen Terry. Dancing from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. For tickets apply, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR W.S.

Office—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.

Tues., Mar. 5.—Anxiety Drawing-room Meeting, 149, Croydon Road, 5.45 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 6.—Caxton Hall, Westminster, Alfred Hoidsworth, Esq., on "Church Reform and Parliament." Chairman: Miss A. Maude Hayden, 5 p.m.; Leamington, Meeting in Masonic Room, Willes Road, Mrs. Knight Bruce, and Rev. Atholstan Corbett (Chair), 5 p.m.

Thurs., Mar. 7.—Forest Gate, Meeting at All Saint's Church, School Room, 8 p.m.

Fri., Mar. 8.—Greenwich, Joint Meeting of C.I.W.S. and F.C.I.W.S. at Borough Hall, Mrs. Lewis Donaldson, Rev. Harriet Baker, Rev. Fleming Williams, Ven. Archdeacon Boreet (Chair), 8 p.m.

IRISH WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Office—Antient Concert Buildings, St. Brunswick Street, Dublin.

At the usual weekly meeting on Tuesday, February 20, Miss Laird gave an interesting sketch of the Women's Suffrage movement. Mrs. Palmer delivered an address on women and politics. Mr. Bunister dealt wittily with some common "A-4" objections. Mrs. Sheehy Skellington, who presided, referring to the recent deposition of Irishwomen to Mr. Birrell, declared that his answer to their appeal to have Woman Suffrage embodied in the House of Commons Bill was unsatisfactory, and somewhat disingenuous. Mr. Bridgeman, Mr. Hughes, Miss Clayton, Mrs. Emerson, and Mrs. Richardson took part in the discussion. In response to special requests from members, a Speakers' Class has been formed, conducted by the distinguished elocutionist, Miss Mary O'Hara, and takes place in the Antient Concert Buildings at 8 p.m. on Thursdays. For particulars apply to the secretary.

CYMRIC SUFFRAGE UNION.

President—Mrs. D. A. Thomas.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. M. E. Davies, 53, Wandsworth Bridge Road, S.W.

The demand for tickets for the meeting on March 15 is increasing. Will members therefore please send at once and secure seats for themselves and friends. Posters have been sent to all the chief Welsh chapels in the metropolis. Names of those who intend to act as stewards should be sent to the secretary at once. The address delivered by Mr. Mansel Moulin at the London Exhibition, and which afterwards appeared in Votes for Women, has been translated, by the Rev. Ifan Davies, Llandrillo, and has been published in the Seren, a North Wales paper with a very great circulation in the rural and quarrying districts.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR W.S.

Hon. General Secs.—Rev. C. and Mrs. Fleming Williams, 4, Holmby View, Clapton, N.

Fri., Mar. 1.—Brighton Branch, Rev. T. Rhonda Williams, Mrs. Ashton, Queen Square Institute, 8 p.m.

Thurs., Mar. 1.—Bromley Branch, Rev. E. T. Benson, 22, Ostlands Road, 3.30 p.m.

Fri., Mar. 2.—Bow Hall, Greenwich, Rev. C. Fleming Williams, Rev. Harriet Baker (Ch. L.W.S.), Archdeacon Boreet, Mrs. Donaldson.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOC. FOR W.S.

President—Mrs. Cecil Chapman.

Office—4, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge (opposite Tube Station).

The Tuesday afternoon At Home continues to grow more popular week by week. On February 20, the Rev. W. F. Cobb, D.D., spoke to an extremely interested audience on Nature's law of dualty illustrated in science, proving the necessity of co-operation between men and women in every department of life. Mrs. Cecil Chapman, as usual, discussed the political situation. The speaker on March 6 will be Lady Muir MacKenzie on The Women of India. Hostess: Mrs. Percy Buchanan. A public meeting will be held at the Central Hill Hall, Upper Norwood, on March 29. Chalkers, canvassers, and poster painters are urgently needed; also speakers for the Crystal Palace, weekly open-air meetings. Will those willing to help please send in their names?

WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

Central Office—19, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane.

A crowded meeting was held at the Town Hall, Brighton, on February 21. Mrs. Jason Kerr was in the chair, and Mrs. Despard was the principal speaker. Mrs. Kington Parkes explained the object and progress of the League. A resolution to the effect that women were justified in resisting taxation till such time as they were enfranchised was passed with only three dissentients. The Chaplain of the Fifth Essex shire gave a most delightful rendering of "Women of To-day" (music by Montague King). A drawing-room meeting had been previously held at Park House by kind invitation of Miss Ashmall-Salt. A shop has been opened by the League, where daily meetings are held.

CATHOLIC W.S. SOCIETY.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Beatrice Gashby, D.E. Hon. Treasurer—Miss Monica Whately.

Office—11, Elandford Street, Baker Street, W.

A procession and joint demonstration of the Religious Leagues for Woman Suffrage will take place on Saturday, March 16th. The procession starts from the Victoria Bankment at 2.30, and will proceed to Trafalgar Square, where speeches will be given. Members are asked to write at once to the hon. sec., and send in their names to walk under the Catholic banner. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss O'Sullivan, 21 Is.; Miss McNulty, 6s.; Miss K. O'Sullivan, 21.

IRISH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, BELFAST.

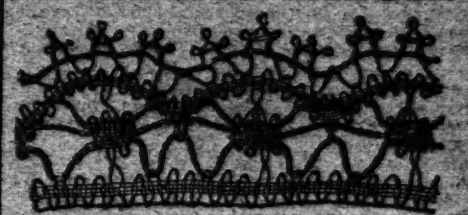
Office—25, Wellington Place, Belfast.

A very enjoyable evening was spent in Ye Old Castle Restaurant on Saturday, where a reception had been arranged to welcome Miss Robinson on her return from two months in Holloway. Mrs. Baker presided, and before Miss Robinson gave her experiences Mrs. Douglas recited a prologue to one of Mr. Zangwill's plays. Miss Robinson, in a very simple and unaffected manner, gave a full account of her recent protest, and gave different examples of the value of militancy as seen in Holloway itself. Miss Alexander, an old school friend of Miss Robinson's, speaking for the less militant members of the I.W.S.S., spoke warmly in appreciation of Miss Robinson's work, and said how much her cheery optimism had been missed during her absence. Mrs. Robinson (Portsmouth) proposed a vote of thanks to the honorary secretary for her work of organising the I.W.S.S. during the past three years, and after Miss Robinson had thanked the audience for their kind welcome, supper was served. On Monday next Mrs. Brierley on John Stuart Mill, in our rooms at 8 o'clock.

STREATHAM AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The Streatham Parliament Debating Society is organising a public debate on Votes for Women, on Friday, March 22. Speakers will be invited from organisations, both in favour of and against Woman's Suffrage, to conduct the debate, in which members of the parliament will also take part. It is to be hoped that local supporters of the movement will muster in full force on the occasion.

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THE COURT, OLNEY, BEDS.

The agitation for the enforced use of Leadless Glaze in the manufacture of pottery, in which readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN have taken a leading part, seems likely in the near future to be crowned with complete success. There is no reason why pottery workers should be poisoned. There is no money in poisoning them, there is no beauty in the poisonous productions that cannot be obtained by the purest methods. There is one Glass and China shop at least in London which sells nothing but Leadless Glaze ware, and the address is Chepstow Place, Bayswater, London, W. It is owned by Mr. Norman W. Franks, who has secured fresh capital and is going to use some of it for the purposes of propaganda. He will advertise and tell the public why Leadless Glaze ware is worthy of being bought for use and ornament. In order to make room for structural alterations he is reducing his stock, and to do that quickly is offering it at reductions ranging from 20 per cent to 33 1/3 per cent. This sale will commence on March 11, but all readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN presenting the notice will have the opportunity of making their selection at sale prices one week ahead of the general public, that is to say, from March 4 to 9.

In the recent Monte Carlo run the German Crown Prince's Cup was awarded to Herr von Bamberg of Berlin, whose car was fitted with Palmer Cord tyres, which accomplished the run from Berlin to Monte Carlo without causing any loss of motion. Another user of Palmer Cord tyres, M. Jean du Tallia, one of the starters from Paris, was also awarded a prize.

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All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, Votes for Women, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

[Property found at W.S.P.U. meetings should be sent to Miss Kerr, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.]

MISS KERR (W.S.P.U.) has several umbrellas, a necklace, and a variety of other articles left at the Christmas Fair and Fête; a Muff found in room 72 after secretary's meeting; also a necklace and pair of long gloves, found after the meeting at the London Pavilion.

THE W.S.P.U. has for Sale Silk Persian Rug, 3½ yds. by 1½ yds., suitable for sofa cover or portiere; beautiful dark colours. Price £2 2s. Apply Mrs. Sanders, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

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